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AND PATRONS

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HONG KONG, THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1948.

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## PANIC SWEEPS HAIFA JEWS

### Arab Mob Massacres 41 Oil Workers

## GOVT. SALARIES REPORT

Increases in the salaries of Government servants varying from 200 per cent. on the basic salaries of the lowest grades, falling to 30 per cent. on salaries of about \$1,000 per month, and to 20 per cent. on salaries of about \$1,500 a month, have been authorised as a result of the Salaries Commission Report, which was issued yesterday afternoon.

The increases authorised are to be retrospective as from January 1st, 1947, which means that Government servants will receive the difference between what they have actually received, and the new scales, for the past twelve months. Authoritatively, it is estimated that the total amount involved by the increases is \$12,000,000 annually.

An additionally interesting feature of the recommendations, which have been accepted, is that expatriate officers (those recruited from overseas) will have the right to retire voluntarily after attaining the age of 45 years.

The detailed Report of the Commission is contained in 71 pages of foolscap, and space considerations prevent its publication in today's paper.

It will, however, be amply covered in future issues. (A summary issued by the Government yesterday appears on Page 4).

## Looting Of Mail Trains Continues

Jerusalem, Dec. 31.

The strike of 3,000 terrified Jewish workers at Haifa's Consolidated Refineries today threatened an acute shortage of gasoline and kerosene throughout the Holy Land.

The Jews refused to return to the plant where yesterday an Arab mob of workers massacred 41 Jews in reprisal for an Irgunist bombing attack which killed six Arabs standing in a queue outside the company's gates.

For the second time in 72 hours armed Arab gangs today looted mail trains in various parts of Palestine but violence so far was sporadic with only two Jews reported killed.

One was a distributor of the Palestine Post who was shot to death on Macmillan Street. The other was an unknown Jew found slain in the heart of Tel-Aviv's Hadassah Garden with all identification marks stripped from his body.

The police blamed the killing on Jewish underground.

### Postal Strike

More than 100 Jewish postal employees refused to work today when they were denied access to and from the main post office. As a result there was considerable delay on trunk telephone calls.

A food shortage is beginning to be felt in Jerusalem which is largely dependent on Arab farmers for vegetables and poultry.

Arab farmers are avoiding the Jewish quarters where their lives are endangered.

The meat shortage is also becoming acute as a result of inadequate transportation and lack of manpower in remote slaughter houses.

Many communities are still isolated as a result of the breakdown in long distance telephone.

Newspapers in Jaffa and Tel-Aviv were unable to contact

their agents and circulation was disrupted.

At Haifa refinery the Jewish workers said they would not risk their lives in the huge plant where the majority of workers are Arabs until they are assured of "adequate protection."

The refinery, which supplies Palestine with practically all its petroleum products, was shut down temporarily and construction on new installations under American supervision was halted.

All Americans working in the plant were reported safe.

The Jewish employees charged that plant police did not attempt to quell the frenzied Arab mob and that Arab guards even joined in slaughtering Jews.—United Press.

## How Govt. Salaries Are Based

No attempt can be made today to give the full details of the Government Salaries proposals, but the following can be regarded as typical of the increases authorised, apart from High Cost of living allowances:

per annum, per annum.

### GOVERNMENT HOUSE

|                    |                  |                    |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Telephone Operator | \$480 to \$1,000 | \$1,000 to \$2,380 |
| Chauffeur          | \$960            | \$1,800            |
| Amah               | \$342            | \$624 to \$720     |

### COLONIAL SECRETARIAT

|                |          |                               |
|----------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Col. Secretary | \$13,600 | \$18,400 (plus \$4,800 expat) |
|----------------|----------|-------------------------------|

### AIR SERVICES

|           |          |          |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| Director  | \$14,200 | \$22,800 |
| Mechanics | \$1,440  | \$2,880  |

### EDUCATION

|          |          |                               |
|----------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Director | \$24,000 | \$27,200 (plus \$4,000 expat) |
|----------|----------|-------------------------------|

### UNIVERSITY TRAINED

|                  |         |         |
|------------------|---------|---------|
| Master           | \$1,800 | \$5,400 |
| Assistant Master | \$900   | \$1,600 |

### FIRE BRIGADE

|                  |          |                               |
|------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Chief Officer    | \$14,400 | \$20,160 (plus \$4,000 expat) |
| Station Officers | \$4,160  | \$11,200 (plus \$1,600 expat) |

### FIREFMEN

|                 |       |         |
|-----------------|-------|---------|
| Fireman         | \$180 | \$1,200 |
| Recruit         | \$184 | \$960   |
| Telephone Clerk | \$480 | \$1,800 |

### HARBOUR DEPT

|                        |         |                               |
|------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Chief Clerk            | \$2,400 | \$12,000 (plus \$2,400 expat) |
| Deputy Shipping Master | \$8,400 | \$12,000 (plus \$2,400 expat) |

### DRAFTSMEN

|           |                    |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Draftsmen | \$2,000 to \$3,000 | \$1,800 to \$1,600 |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|

### MEDICAL DEPT

|              |                  |                    |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Staff Nurses | \$720 to \$1,080 | \$2,440 to \$4,440 |
| Mental Nurse | \$1,500          | \$2,440            |

### POLICE

|                 |                     |                                           |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Superintendents | \$7,200 to \$20,800 | \$16,320 to \$19,200 (plus \$1,200 expat) |
| A.S.P.          | \$8,320 to \$16,800 | \$7,680 to \$15,600 (plus \$1,600 expat)  |

### CHIEF INSPECTORS

|                  |                     |                                           |
|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Chief Inspectors | \$9,600 to \$11,200 | \$12,960 to \$15,900 (plus \$1,200 expat) |
| Inspectors       | \$7,600 to \$9,600  | \$10,080 to \$11,320 (plus \$1,200 expat) |

### Sub-Inspectors

|                |                    |                                         |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Sub-Inspectors | \$4,160 to \$4,800 | \$4,800 to \$5,600 (plus \$1,600 expat) |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------|

## Mufti's Arab Army Recruits To The Fujiwah Await Inspection



While Arab National Palestine Flag Flutters In The Breeze, Arab Recruits for the Fujiwah (the Mufti's private army) await inspection by their Commander-in-Chief, Kemal Effendi Arakat, during a parade held recently at the village of Abu Dis, near Jerusalem. —A.Phot.

## Copenhagen Wants Explanation Of "Kina" Wreck

Manila, Dec. 31.

Copenhagen has asked the Danish Consulate to inquire into the sinking of s.s. Kina on December 25 off Samar.

Consul Sven Hjalberg, local manager of the East Asiatic Company, taking testimony of the crew and passengers simultaneously, has notified the Philippine Government of the action.

While the search is still continuing off Samar for 34 missing persons, Mr. Hjalberg said little hope is being entertained for their survival.

The value of the ship is estimated at US\$4,000,000 which was borne by a number of insurance companies.

First Officer F. L. W. Dalberg said Captain Vlademar Hjermum had no way of knowing that he was close to land until it was too late since the Kina had no radar and its echo sounding gear was ineffective.

However, even if sounding was possible, they would have shown deep water up to the edge of the fringing rocks around the tiny Camandag Island.

Mr. Hjalberg said inquiries disclosed the ship was hurled over uncharted rocks or reef, then smashed down on the hull, burning open the hatch like a ripe water melon.

### Criticism

Some of the passengers of the typhoon-wrecked Danish motorship "Kina" criticise Captain Vlademar Hjermum for taking the vessel into the treacherous Samar Sea in the face of typhoon warnings.

Mr. Constance Matti, wife of A. G. F. Matti, former Swiss hotel manager at Hong Kong, said the Filipino pilot Osmo warned Hjermum not to leave the port of Tabaco. Mrs. Matti

lost her eldest son, Dennis, 19, when the ship sank. She praised the handling of the ship by officers and men when disaster struck.

Survivors, flown here from Masabate Island, said the "Kina" slipped into the water bow first shortly after it hit unseen rocks off Camandag Island. Most of the passengers had to make for the shore on rafts or by clinging to spars or other bits of wreckage.

### Women's Story

Three American women lived through harrowing experiences. They were Miss Ada Espen-shade, 38, of Chicago; Miss Anne Malek of Connecticut; and Miss Louise Rosen of New York City.

All survivors appeared to be cheerful as they emerged from the plane, but signs of their nightmare experience were stamped on their faces. All were dressed in odd assortments of clothing from the ship's lockers.

Miss Malek said that the shipwreck was a "harrowing experience." She said she had drifted nine hours through the stormy night and "finally landed at San Joaquin on Samar, where the kindly postmaster, Lorenzo Amigos, took good care of us and gave us all we needed."

The passengers included Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Matti, of Switzerland who arrived with their five-year-old son, Kenneth. Their oldest son Dennis is still missing. He was in No. 3 lifeboat, which was smashed by a huge wave when it was launched. —Associated Press and United Press.

### HOLIDAY PUBLICATION

There will be no issue of the "China Mail" tomorrow, January 2nd.

Publication will be resumed on Saturday. We take this opportunity of wishing our readers the best of New Years.

## Release Of "Prosper" Ordered

The Inspector-General of the Chinese Maritime Customs in Shanghai has ordered the immediate release of the 3,000-ton Norwegian vessel, "Prosper," detained by the Chinese Customs authorities at Amoy since December 20, the "China Mail" learned from local shipping circles last night.

The Chinese Deputy Commissioner of Customs at Amoy was yesterday instructed to accept the previous insurance offered in person by the Norwegian Ambassador to China, Mr. N. Aall, with the qualification that the Norwegian authorities may protest the fine imposed if they wish to do so later.

As reported exclusively in the "China Mail" yesterday, the "Prosper" was detained at Amoy following the discovery of unmanifested cargo on board.

The Chinese Customs authorities imposed a CN\$4,000,000 fine which they later reduced to CN\$2,660,550,000.

They demanded immediate payment in cash and rejected the personal guarantee of the Norwegian Ambassador, which was counter-signed by the Amoy branch of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

They also refused to arrest the suspected owners of the unmanifested goods.

The "Prosper" is carrying some 146 passengers who have been virtually imprisoned in the ship for more than 10 days.

### The Weather

Pressure remains high over and to the north of China, and an anti-cyclone centred east of Honshu, is moving east. A depression which has formed south of Vladivostok is expected to deepen rapidly and move north-east, and another depression is stationary south-east of Malacca.

Forecast: Light or moderate north-easterly winds. Sea: Moderate. Weather: Partly cloudy. Temperature: 70.0 deg. F. Minimum: 61.7 deg. F. Maximum: 81.7 deg. F.

Remarks: No rain. Sea: Moderate. Weather: Partly cloudy. Temperature: 70.0 deg. F. Minimum: 61.7 deg. F. Maximum: 81.7 deg. F.

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## Chiang Issues Call For National Unity

Nanking, Dec. 31.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, in his New Year broadcast to the people of China tonight, declared that the purpose of the eight long years of Chinese resistance to Japanese aggression was to safeguard the national independence and freedom of the Chinese nation.

"Our armed forces and civilians endured wartime hardships fighting against great odds in the hope that after victory we would have the opportunity to recuperate and to resume our pursuits in peace and security."

"The purpose of our eight year long war was to safeguard our national independence and freedom."

The President continued: "Immediately after VJ Day, the Communists launched an all-out rebellion which, in one stroke, tore up our newly-gained peace and security, and spoiled the people's chances of a better livelihood."

"Our people have emerged from a major catastrophe only to find that they had no homes to return to and no work to take up."

"Actually what our people have suffered at the hands is by far more brutal than was handed out to them by the Japanese during the war."

"On this New Year's Day, in thinking about the widespread sufferings and in facing our responsibilities, I can find no words which can adequately express our profound sorrow and deep concern over the plight of refugees in this country."

### New Period

"We are now entering a period of constitutional rule."

"Democracy must be based on national unity."

"Without unity, the existence of our nation will be jeopardized, our programme of economic development impeded and our constitutional rule deprived of solid foundation in a Commonwealth dedicated to the consummation of the Three Peoples Principles."

"Shamelessly, the Communists still claim that their armed rebellion is a patriotic war for democracy."

"A year ago, they opposed the National Assembly and refused to recognize the constitution which the National Assembly adopted."

"During the past year the Communists had taken down their masks and their real aim is to carve up China into pieces and bring the country to ruin."

"The action of the Communists run counter to human nature. They encourage beastliness, they carry out systematic destruction."

## Four H.K. Residents In Honours List

Four Hong Kong residents are included in the New Year Honours List.

They are Mr. Benjamin Wong Tape, awarded the OBE; Mr. Francis Brett, awarded the MBE (Civil); Mr. Manassah Noh Rakusen, awarded the MBE (Military); and Mr. Mohammed Yousof Khan, awarded the BEM (Civil).

(FOR CITATIONS — SEE PAGE 2)

and oppose reconstruction. They want to see widespread poverty and death in China instead of peace and prosperity."

The Generalissimo, after reviewing the Communist rebellion in the North East, next turned his attention to the industrialists and businessmen in the larger cities.

### Ignorance

"I am positive our economic situation has been brought about by ignorance on the part of those people."

"The seriousness of the Communist menace to this country has been superseded by their own selfish interests. I hope these people won't lose sight of their country's long-range interests by yielding to selfish considerations and proceeding along the road which is opposed to the national security and welfare of the people."

"For the sake of our existence as an independent and free nation, we shall heighten our sense of responsibility and implement our love for our fellow countrymen by resolving to put the general mobilisation order into full force."

"We should march steadily forward until we shall have fulfilled our sacred mission." — Reuter-AAP.

## Notice of Removal

WE WISH TO NOTIFY THE PUBLIC THAT ON FRIDAY, 2ND JANUARY, 1948

OUR HONG KONG OFFICE WILL BE MOVED

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## PIG - SHOOTERS FOUND A TIGER INSTEAD

That the tiger reported to have been seen in the New Territories was not figment of the imagination was vouched for by Sub-Inspector G. J. Perkins, Police Armourer, yesterday.

## Bikini Insects Unaffected

Chicago, Dec. 31. Insects on Bikini atoll weathered the atom bomb tests without showing any new forms from the effects of radioactivity. A.C. Cole, Jr., University of Tennessee entomologist, says.

The insect population on the islands in the atoll, studied during a visit last summer, might be termed normal for islands of the general area "and no structural anomalies were observed which might have been caused by blast or radiation effects," he told the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Some flies of the fruitfly family were brought back for continued study to see if radioactivity had affected their genetic structure and heredity, but so far no changes beyond normal variability have been noted. —Associated Press.

## ON OTHER PAGES

Page two: New Year Honours.  
Page three: A New Year's Love Story.  
Page five: Wallace Verma Truman.  
Page seven: Engineering.  
Page eight: Britain.  
Page nine: Britain.  
Page ten: Britain.







WE WISH TO EXPRESS THANKS TO OUR PATRONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT, AND FOR THE SPIRIT SHOWN IN MAKING THE PAST YEAR A SUCCESSFUL ONE, AND WE WISH THEM

A Very  
Happy New Year

★

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

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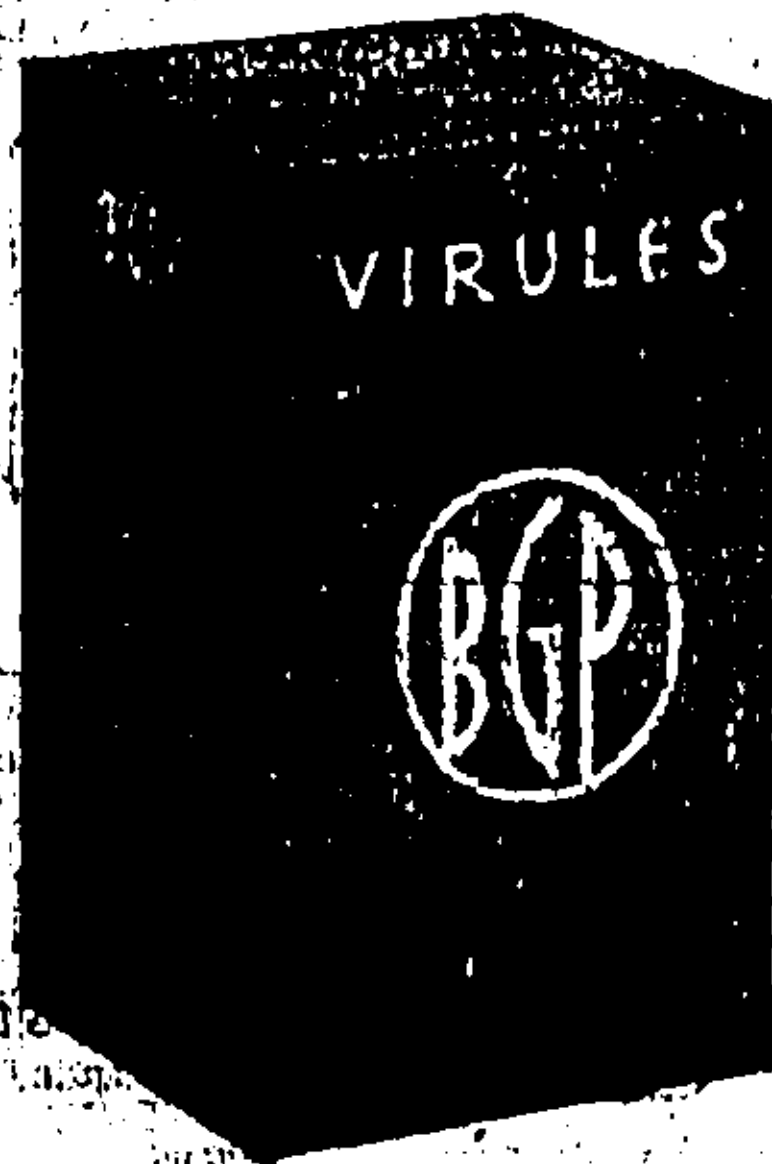
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AGENCIA CONTINENTAL

## A Rubber Cheque Bounced

A rubber cheque for \$43,000 is reported to have been "palmed" off on the Globe Trading Company, of 37 Des Voeux Road, Central, a few days ago, the "China Mail" learned last night. The cheque, presented the day after the afternoon on a delivery order of more than 150 sets of rubber tyres. The tyres were taken from the company's stock on the afternoon of the sale, but it was not until the following morning that the company discovered the fraud. The police were immediately informed and Inspector Waldron was assigned to the case. The goods were traced to a second buyer, but no clue has yet been found of the whereabouts of the broker.

The Globe Trading Company is now seeking the return of the tyres from the second buyer.

## CAR FOUND IN TAIPO HARBOUR

A Hillman Ten car which was reported stolen by Mr. W. E. Allen, formerly of the Health Department, on September 12, 1947, was discovered by fishermen this week in deepish water in the vicinity of Taiipo. The car was recovered and is now in Gilman's Garage in Kowloon. There is no indication yet as to how the car got into the water.

## RADIO

ZBW Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles from 12.30 p.m. Daily Programme Summary: 12.30 to 2.00 p.m. and from 6.00 to 11.00 p.m., and also on 5.22 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.30 to 1.15, 6.30 to 7.30 and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m.  
12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.  
12.35 p.m.—A Popular Concert.  
1.00 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.  
1.10 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.  
1.15 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Service "Heather Mixture" A Variety Programme with the Scottish Variety Orchestra.  
2.00 p.m.—Close Down.  
6.00 p.m.—Studio Jazz Journal presented by Philip Burn & Leslie Bentley.  
6.30 p.m.—Studio: La Demi-Hour Française.  
7.00 p.m.—London Relay: World and Home News.  
7.15 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Service "ITMA" with Tommy Handley.  
7.45 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Service "Piano Parade".  
8.15 p.m.—Studio: Concert from featuring Harry Moody (Baritone) John Fielder (Trumpet) David Phillips (Cornet) with Piano accompaniment by Val Bowness.  
8.30 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Service "Music in Miniature".  
9.00 p.m.—London Relay: News.  
9.15 p.m.—Weather Report.  
9.15 p.m.—Studio: Book Reviews presented by G.D. Endicott.  
9.25 p.m.—Music for Dancing.  
10.00 p.m.—London Relay: Radio News.  
10.15 p.m.—London Relay: A Scottish Half Hour.  
10.45 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Service "Edie Hartley & His Music".  
11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

## Friday

ZBW Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles from 12.15 to 1.15, 6.00 to 11.00 p.m., and also on 5.22 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.15 to 1.15, 6.30 to 7.15 and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m.  
12.15 p.m.—Studio: Catholic Morning Prayers.  
12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.  
12.35 p.m.—Light Variety.  
1.00 p.m.—Pianists Organists.  
1.15 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.  
1.25 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.  
1.30 p.m.—Popular Classics.  
2.00 p.m.—Close Down.  
6.00 p.m.—Studio: Children's Half Hour.  
6.15 p.m.—Studio: Portuguese Half Hour.  
7.00 p.m.—London Relay: World and Home News.  
7.15 p.m.—Studio: "You Asked for It" Variety Request Programme presented by Monica Kelly.  
7.45 p.m.—Studio: "The Place of God" —Dory to God, and on Earth—Pope among men—A Talk by the Very Rev. A.P. Ross.  
8.10 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Service "Music of the People".  
8.30 p.m.—London Relay: News.  
9.15 p.m.—Weather Report.  
9.15 p.m.—Studio: Book Reviews presented by G.D. Endicott.  
9.25 p.m.—Music for Dancing.  
10.00 p.m.—London Relay: Radio News.  
10.15 p.m.—London Relay: A Scottish Half Hour.  
10.45 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Service "Edie Hartley & His Music".  
11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

## BEHIND THE WIRE



Dede la Boulange, notorious French underworld character, recently released from prison after serving a term for forging banknotes, was rearrested December 19, with several other persons, accused of printing millions of false banknotes.

Photo shows: Dede la Boulange seen at the headquarters of the Economic Police in Paris after his arrest December 19.—AP Photo.

## Protest Over A.S. Watson Share Premium

A strong protest against making shareholders pay a premium on the new share issue of A. S. Watson & Co. Ltd. was voiced by Mr. N. V. A. Croucher at yesterday's extraordinary general meeting of the Company held at the Hong Kong Hotel.

The meeting was held to pass a resolution for increasing the Company's share capital from 1½ to 6 million dollars, and for the issue of 100,000 new shares of \$10 each, plus a premium of \$10, the proportion of one new share for every one old share held. Mr. Croucher said the Company had enjoyed an era of record prosperity. It carried forward from 1947 a reserve fund of \$750,000 and undivided profits of \$1,400,000. Last year it made a net profit of \$1,400,000 and this year (from reports on the market) it had made \$1,400,000. The only return shareholders got was a dividend of \$2.50 for this period. He asked for an amendment to the resolution to provide for the shares to be issued at par or, alternatively, that a bonus share be issued in lieu of the premium. The motion was ruled out of order. It was pointed out the resolution could only be adopted or rejected, and no amendment could be made. The meeting was presided over by Mr. D.E. Clark, and he was supported by Sir Shouson Chow and Mr. M.H. Turner (Directors) and Mr. W. Paterson (Secretary and Director).

Explaining the resolution before the meeting the Chairman said: "The purpose of the Resolution, which is the subject of this Special Meeting of the Company, is to make the necessary provision for the financing of heavy outlays on Capital Account and for certain Renewals and Replacements, which the Company must meet in the period ahead. In explanation, I would state that plans in this connection are centred principally towards the erection of an up-to-date aerated water plant in Kowloon, as soon as possible, in order that we may be properly equipped to meet the current and future demands for our aerated waters on the mainland. I might add that the land for this has already been purchased. Under the present system these requirements have to be transported across the harbour from our North Point factory, which is highly unsatisfactory. In explanation, I would state that the cost of this transport is extremely expensive and offers a most inadequate service. Furthermore, experience has shown that our Hong Kong plant, operating at high pressure in the peak season with an output comparing favourably with that of any single factory of a like nature elsewhere, cannot be expected, both from its location and by the limited production capacity, to deal adequately and economically with our entire distribution throughout the Colony. A very marked development in our sales for the Kowloon and New Territories areas has been noted and, consequently, it is considered advisable to decentralise our activities in this branch of the Company if full advantage is to be taken of its earning capacity and we are to be in a sound position to meet competition in this particular field at any future time. Our estimate also includes the replacement of certain obsolete machinery and equipment at our North Point factory which has been in use for many years and now requires very frequent attention, entailing interruption to production. Radical changes in the whole nature of production methods have also occurred in recent years in the aerated water industry, materially affecting economic production, particularly as regards necessary labour and fuel (gas) requirements, and it is considered that it is in the interest of your general

## Just A Newsboy's Love Story

The "love story" of a 24-year-old newspaper vendor and a 15-year-old girl cigarette hawker was heard at Central Magistrate's court yesterday before Mr. F. X. d'Almada.

Charged with a serious offence, Chan Kam-yan of No. 134, Johnston Road, was cautioned and warned to be careful.

Mr. H. W. Fraser told the court that Det-PC Dai Lin me "ham Chiu, fook of the Yuen Tang Fruit Stall, at noon on December 1, and was told that his 15-year-old daughter had disappeared from her aunt's place at No. 165, Queen's Road East.

PC Lai was given a photo of the girl taken with some men, including defendant.

On December 10, Det-PC 874 met defendant in Lockhart Road, who claimed the girl to be his wife.

The girl, whom medical examination revealed to be 15 years and 6 months, said she came to Hong Kong in July, 1947, and worked in various places as a maid.

When she ran away from the opium den she sold cigarettes and met defendant, who later obtained employment for her as a needle packer at the Tai Chung Factory.

It was stated that the girl would marry defendant who had a common law wife already.

## TWO EUROPEANS' HOUSES BURGLED

Burglars broke into 39 and 41 Ashley Road, between 4 a.m. and 5 a.m. yesterday, and stole money and personal effects from the first house (occupied by Mr. Rothwell of the Star Ferry Co.) to the total value of \$1,340, and personal property from Mr. White, occupier of No. 41, valued at \$460. A suspect is being detained by the Police in connection with the first burglary.

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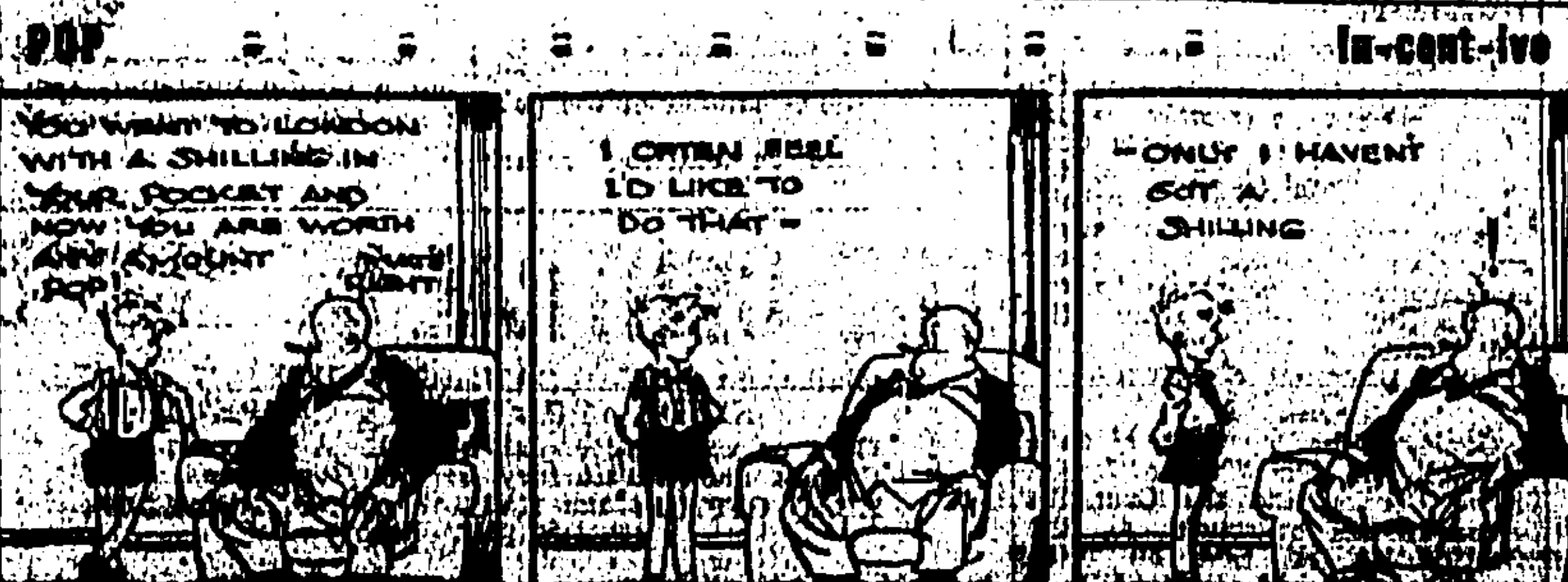
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**KING'S**NEW YEAR  
ATTRACTIONTHE MANAGEMENT OF THE KING'S THEATRE  
WISHES ALL THEIR PATRONS  
A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

\* FIVE SHOWS TO-DAY \*

11.30 A.M., 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 &amp; 9.30 P.M.

SUNDAY MORNING AT 11.30 A.M. ONLY  
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# HEAVY BLOW TO TRUMAN

## Wallace Candature Menaces Election Chance

### Opening Doors To Reactionaries

Washington, Dec. 30.

President Truman's chances of election to a White House term of his own are gravely endangered by Mr. Henry Wallace's decision to run for President next year as a communist-sparked Left-wing candidate and the Republican presidential possibilities have brightened correspondingly.

Mr. Wallace's move may land a stunning blow on the man who beat him for the Vice-Presidency in 1944 and then kicked him out of his Cabinet a few months after succeeding the late President Roosevelt.

Mr. Truman cannot afford to lose the industrial area votes that Mr. Wallace's Left-wing backers expected to take from him. Mr. Wallace indicated he expected to be on the ballot in New York, Illinois and California—three states which cast a total of 9 votes in the electoral college.

A good showing by Mr. Wallace in these three big states would nearly kill Mr. Truman's chances.

Close friends of the President asked for comment on Mr. Wallace's announcement, replied: "The President does not give a damn. Why should he?"

Target: 1952?

Not all the New Deal coalition will go with Mr. Wallace. The principal units of organized labour will oppose him and the anti-Communist New Deal organization known as Americans for Democratic Opposition and backed by stand-out veterans of New Deal strongly repudiated Mr. Wallace's move, saying there "is overwhelming evidence the Communists are the machine behind the third party."

The only parties so far behind Mr. Wallace are the Communists and the newly organized Progressive Party of Illinois. Mr. Wallace and his backers know they cannot win the White House next year but apparently are shooting for 1952 when they hope to take over the Democratic Party outside the traditionally solid south.

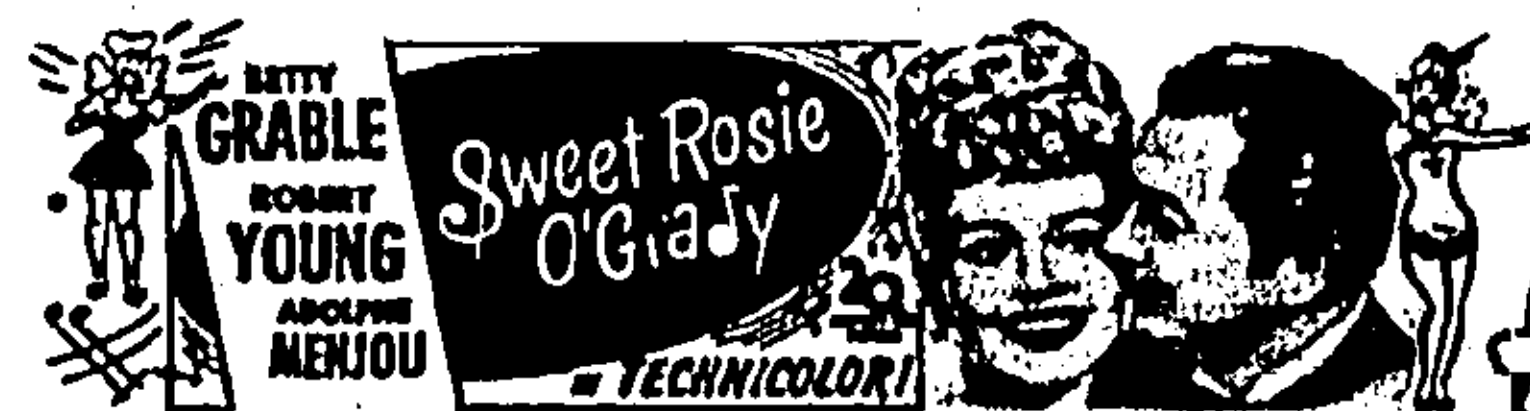
Rejected

The Political Action Committee of the Congress of Industrial Organizations—one of America's two major labour organizations—today rejected Mr. Henry Wallace, the former Vice-President, as presidential candidate for a third party.

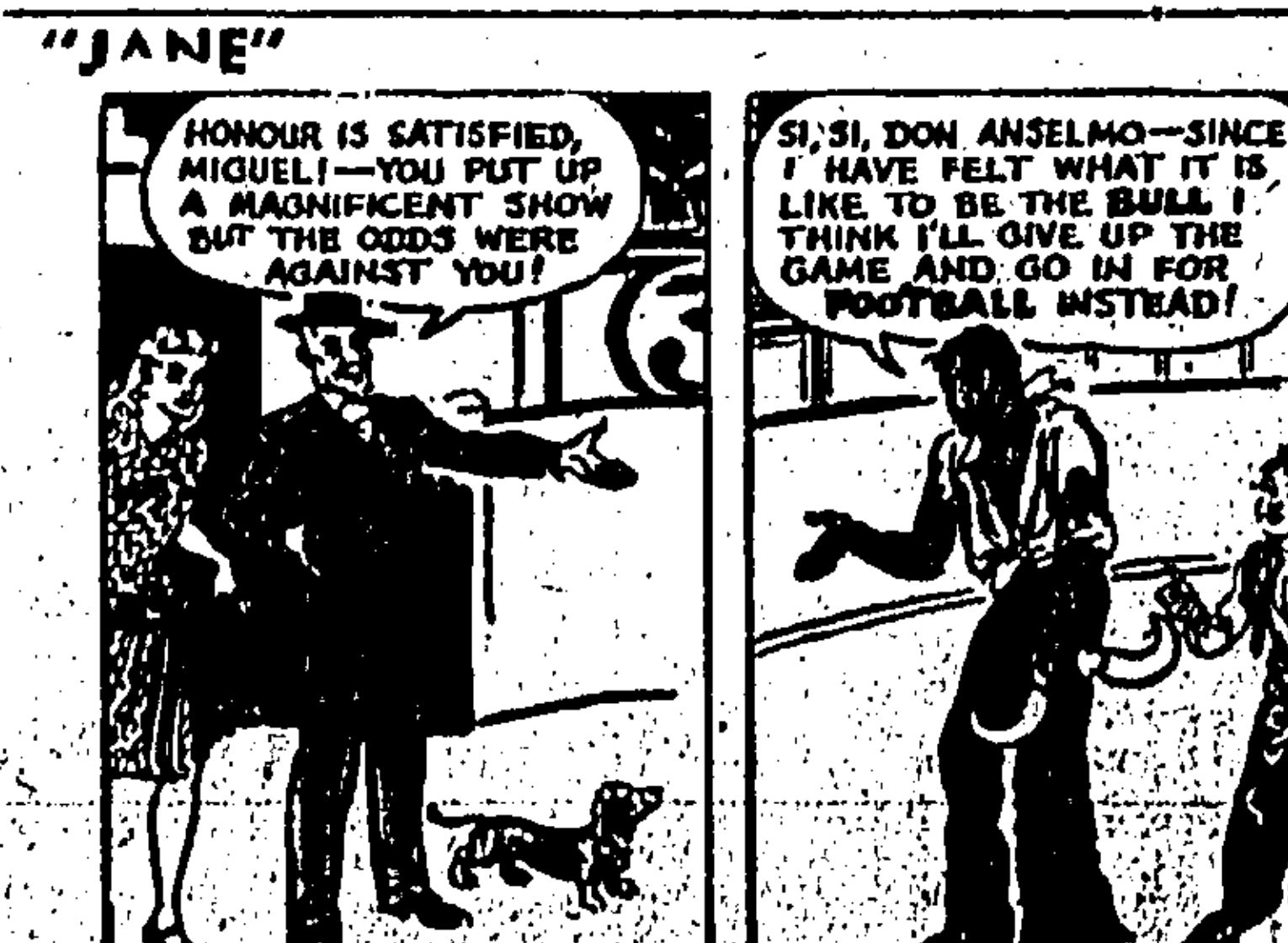
"It has been the policy of this Committee not to support a third party in 1948," he Committee declared.

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**A Fine Thing!**

Lisbon, Dec. 30.  
The heaviest fine in the history of Portugal, 43,300,000 escudos, has been levied recently against industrialist Manuel Antonio Lagoa, Jr., head of a Portuguese ceramics firm, for alleged violations of finance regulations.—United Press.

**Increasing Use Of Rubber**

New York, Dec. 30.  
A spokesman for the Rubber Manufacturers' Association said the addition of colour and style to footwear and clothes this year had a strong influence on consumer buying. Manufacturers said more from rubber would be produced next year than in the past.

Foam rubber is widely used in mattresses and in the transportation field. Operation of Government-owned synthetic plants, widely debated in Congress during December,

**New Comet Split?**

London, Dec. 30.  
The new comet, "1947N", is reported to have split into two parts which are now 1,200 miles apart and going different ways.

This report is made by Copenhagen Observatory, but scientists at Greenwich Observatory have seen no signs of the split. People at Plymouth, and in Jersey and the Scilly Isles, reported seeing the comet last night. It was visible for about seven minutes.

The Plymouth observers declared they saw a bright star orange in colour. Scilly Isles inhabitants said that the comet was low on the horizon at a few minutes past six.

A member of the Cambridge Solar Physics Observatory, however, says that the People probably were mistaken.—Reuter.

will probably continue in Government hands for a year or maybe two years longer. A majority of manufacturers are on record as requesting this.—Associated Press.

# Wallace's 7-Point Programme

Milwaukee, Dec. 30.

Mr. Henry Wallace, in his first major address as Third Party Presidential candidate, today outlined a seven-point programme "designed to form a basis for world peace."

Addressing a Milwaukee Rally in the State of Wisconsin, where the Progressive Party gained fame as a third political power, Mr. Wallace attacked the Democrats and Republicans and said he had a programme based on aid to devastated nations.

He said the plan was formulated "to reaffirm the nation's faith in the United Nations."

The former Vice-President delivered his address a few hours after disclosing that he was considering Senator Glen Taylor (Democrat, Idaho) as his Vice-Presidential running mate.

Mr. Wallace charged that the European Recovery Plan, "with the Truman Doctrine as its core," interfered in the social, economic and political affairs of countries which received aid. He outlined a programme:

1. To establish a United Nations reconstruction fund similar to UNRRA to place war-devastated lands of Europe and Asia on a self-sustaining basis.
  2. The fund to be administered by a United Nations agency for that purpose.
  3. Contributions, to be made by the United States and other nations "possessed of means", sufficient for an overall five-year plan.
  4. Priority to be given nations which suffered most under Axis aggressions, with allocations based solely on merit and need, regardless of the nation's politics and social institutions.
  5. No political or economic conditions to be attached to loans or grants which might infringe on the nation's sovereignty. Each nation is to be left free to develop its own national economic plan.
  6. No money to be given for military supplies, armaments or war preparations.
  7. Place the Ruhr Valley of Germany under international control by the Big Four, to use Ruhr resources for European reconstruction and guarantee that Germany will never again threaten world peace.
- Admitting that he favoured the original Marshall Plan, Mr. Wallace charged that the Truman Doctrine defeated every purpose as set forth in the first Marshall Programme.
- He said the United States had invested: US\$400,000,000 in Greece and Turkey, US\$2,000,000,000 in China and US\$25,000,000,000 for the armed forces. Such a programme created a foreign policy

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## DEATH

GOMES—Francisco Xavier Gomes (Banque de l'Indo-Chine) died on the 31st December, 1947, at Precious Blood Hospital. Funeral will take place from the Cemetery Chapel on the 2nd January, 1948, at 5.45 p.m. No flowers by request. Shanghai, Manila and Macao papers please copy.

## A YEAR'S WORK

It is tempting at the end of each year to endeavour to assess the value of its political happenings, and to wonder for which of its events it will be remembered in history. That is not easy; often quite impossible. Who, for instance, in A.D. 622 would have chosen as the "event of the year" the flight of certain Arab from Mecca to Medina; or in 1581 the crossing of the Urals and the capture of the town of Sibir by Yermak and his Cossacks; or in 1776 the birth of a baby to the family of Bonaparte in Ajaccio in Corsica. That now forgotten battle of Pontenovo, a few miles away, must have seemed far more important to the folk of Ajaccio.

So in 1600, when Dutch traders had raised the price of pepper from three shillings to eight shillings and 125 London traders, to try to break the monopoly, formed the "Company of Merchants of London Trading to the East Indies", with a modest capital of £70,000 it would have required prophetic gifts to assess the historical importance of that move.

So it may be that 1947 will, a century or more hence, be remembered for something, for some happening, which we have hardly noticed or not noticed at all. But it will certainly be remembered as well as the year of the ending of the British Empire in India, of which the story began with the meeting of London merchants to protest against the increased price of pepper.

For this ending of a great empire has—apart from all other considerations—a quality which marks it out for historical remembrance. It is an event which has no parallel.

Great empires in the past have often crumbled to decay: they have collapsed in defeat or in revolution. But never before has an "imperialist" nation deliberately planned and carried out the transference of power from itself to a "subject" nation. The history of the British Dominions is in some ways a pattern, but yet no parallel. For in their case the "colonists" who became self-governing were either British or of kindred stocks.

In the case of India and Pakistan and Burma, the empire which has ended had been established by armed conquest. Between the conquerors and conquered there was a wide gap of race and language, of religion and social ways. The "Indian Empire" was a classical example of capitalist imperialism.

The manner of its end, however, has confounded all the Marxist prophets. There should have been an increasingly intense struggle between "oppressors" and "oppressed," culminating in a violent upheaval and a revolutionary seizure of power, or in the brutal repression by the "imperialists" of their freedom-loving victims.

But it has not happened so. Instead it is the imperialist Power which, having deliberately stimulated and encouraged national and democratic aspirations in peoples who, a few generations ago, knew nothing of either nationality, or of democracy, has firmly and decisively insisted on relinquishing all authority over the greatest subject population in history. And the process has been entirely peaceful. There it is true have been conflicts and there have been bloodshed; but they have sprung entirely from

## Round-Up Of The Pacific

# WHITE AUSTRALIA POLICY UNMITIGATED

By Arthur Morley

An unscheduled and unwelcome development on Manus Island, Australia's new naval base to the northward, perturbed white administrators here this week.

Once again the Cargo Cult had emerged among the natives—a primitive doctrine based on misinterpretation of the Christian scriptures. In pre-war Papua, similar manifestations went under the name of Vailala Madness.

The doctrine is based on the belief that some vague "good things of life" have been held back from the native peoples, either by white men or some other agency.

A village prophet has arisen on Manus who claims to have spoken with the Lord, who promised to send a ship loaded with "good things."

Villagers have been worked up to a frenzy of belief; thrown away their worldly possessions, neglected their gardens and gone down to the beach to wait for their ship.

After a few weeks will come diabolical and a resumption of normal life. Periodically the Cargo Cult breaks out on Pacific islands without ill effect, unless force is used to try to break up the beach-side vigil.

**HURT PRIDE:** Relations between Australia and Malaya became more and more strained this week, as the Australian Government announced determination to maintain its barriers against coloured immigration.

On Canberra's orders, 14 Malay seamen married to Australian girls were deported from Sydney. They had come to Australia during the war; most of them had served as seamen on British merchant ships.

Minister for Immigration Calwell sought by careful choice of words to still the indignant clamour in Malaya. The seamen, he explained, were merely being "repatriated"; not deported.

In Singapore, 25 political and social Malayan organisations held a protest meeting and resolved to organise a boycott of Australian goods. Demands arose to deport all Australian citizens from Singapore.

The Australian Government refused to budge an inch and by the week-end underlined their policy by announcing im-

mediate deportation of a Chinese immigrant discovered in Sydney.

**FACE SAVED:** Up on the Asiatic mainland, China accomplished a little face-saving. The Chinese Government conveyed to the Allied Occupation authorities in Tokyo their displeasure at continued Japanese use of the name "Chinwa" for their country.

The Chinese insisted that instead the Japanese should on all occasions be obliged to use the formal term "Kung-hua-min-kuo," meaning the middle lower country.

Japanese authorities announced officially that they would adopt any name China preferred, provided it was acceptable to the Occupation authorities.

**HAIL FELLOW:** In Japan the week brought further evidences of newly-burgeoning democracy. Emperor Hirohito returned to his villa after a tour of the northern provinces, a which he played to the full his role as leader of the new democracy.

Correspondents, at the end of the tour, delivered themselves of the following statistical summary: His Majesty said "How are you, 2,000 times," "Take good care of yourself," 1,000 times; "Keep your chin up," 800 times; and "now your sanitary facilities?" 1,000 times.

**BRITISH GOODS:** In Canberra, Prime Minister Chifley announced some positive measures to alleviate the British Commonwealth's dollar crisis. Negative steps—reduction of dollar imports—had already been taken.

The Prime Minister asked his experts to investigate immediate increase in tobacco acreage, in production of linseed oil and cotton. Much of the Australian tobacco, however, had a very unpleasing flavour and Australians were turning their eyes to South Africa for increased supplies.

Mr. Chifley, a constant pipe smoker and fond of his Virginia mixtures, makes no secret of the fact that he regards South African tobacco as "an acquired taste."

Other Australians are not so fastidious. South African cigarettes are now being sold by the hundreds of thousands in all Australian cities.

**UNOFFICIAL ALLIES:** Existence of an informal but real military understanding between the United States and the British Commonwealth for defence of the Pacific was demonstrated again this week.

An American submarine called at Brisbane on a good-will cruise. Before leaving, the submarine joined units of the

R.A.N. in manoeuvres off the Queensland coast lasting several days. Soon, Australian-American staff talks on the Pacific would be held regularly.

**MORE RATIONING:** Australians had hoped against hope that the Chifley Government would remove clothing, linen and food rationing. This week the hopes were dashed. All citizens were required to present themselves at ration depots throughout the land to obtain ration coupons for the next year.

Mr. Chifley is holding a referendum early in the new year to seek permission from the people to continue wartime controls, including rationing and price-fixing, for an indefinite period. The Government gave as its reason: an approaching depression.

**HEAVENLY MISSION:** Grandest job of the whole British export drive fell to thirty businessmen this week. They prepared for a four-month cruise on a luxury yacht of the main ports of Bali, Java, Siam, Burma, Timor, Sumatra and Malaya "to open new markets."

Fare will be about £300. Pacific trade is slowly returning to normal. The white island luggers, manned by native boys are now taking Scottish marmalade, tinned food and ironmongery to the tiniest atolls.

**POLITICAL FIGHT:** In Australian politics, socialism remained the great issue. Prime Minister Chifley used his majority to have both Lower House and Senate pass his bill to nationalise all banks.

As soon as the bill became law, eleven trading banks obtained from the High Court an injunction restraining Mr. Chifley from acquiring their property until the bill had been contested.

Both Government and private enterprise briefed expensive counsel and prepared for a legal fight to the finish.

Three state Governments, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia also prepared for court action, on the ground that Mr. Chifley's action was an infringement of the states' constitutional rights.

**GETTING BACK TO NORMAL**  
London, Dec. 30.

Six more passenger liners of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company are expected to be back in regular service by the end of next summer.

These six ships will be in addition to two vessels which are now running on the service from Britain to India and Australia and from Britain to India and the Far East respectively.

The "Strathaird" leaves London for Australia next Friday on her first postwar voyage as a reconditioned passenger liner.

The six vessels are the "Mooltan," "Maldia," "Ranchi," "Chitral," "Carnegie" and "Gorta." The "Ranchi" and "Chitral" will take emigrants to Australia.

**BARCLAY ON BRIDGE**  
By SHEPARD BARCLAY  
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**REALLY SHOWS DOUBT**

An immediate jump to game in the suit opened by your partner implies doubt about your side's ability to make the contract when such a bid is by a high-ranking player. Its purpose is to prevent the opponents from getting into the auction and it usually indicates a splendid fit for the partner's suit, together with enough values of a distributional nature to give your side a play for a minimum. It definitely declares more than enough strength, especially in high cards, and warns the first bidder not to consider a slam unless his hand is much stronger than a minimum.

S. J. H. A. K. J. 3  
D. 10 8 2  
C. A. Q. 10 8 5  
S. 10 6 5  
H. 5  
D. 9 7 2  
C. 9 6  
C. J 6

Our impression shall likewise appear on the finest quality of English Paper, and we undertake to produce by 1st of April next a correctly and elegantly executed "broad sheet" as ever appeared in China.

Absentee from the service of Mr. Burgoyne, Wellington Street, a Chinese servant, stealing \$80 (which he had been instructed to resolve by his master) and a musical box—playing 6 airs.

## CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"What a quaint stop you dance, Admiral! What is it, the horripole?"

# New Year Survey In China

By John Roderick

China enters the New Year with civil war fires burning or smouldering at every point of the compass.

During 1947, which saw American-supported peace talks falter then fail, the Government's military position has progressively worsened.

The Chinese Communists continue to maintain the initiative on widely separated fronts. The fact that Mao Tse-tung's forces appear still to have plenty of power in reserve means that the next 12 months will be full of ones for a nation which has yet to enjoy a breathing spell free from warfare since the overthrow of the Manchu Dynasty in 1911.

The Government's action in clamping on a tight lid of censorship at the source by forbidding officials to release war information and the military news blackout in the Manchurian city of Mukden underscore the seriousness of the present phase of the civil conflict.

The Generalissimo was said by friends to have wept bitterly over the recent losses in Central China, which included the capture by the Communists of a number of the ablest of his Commanders.

Matters were not improved any by the split in the military clique, which is waging war on the Nationalist side. There seems to be a tendency for Commanders to shear off into one of two camps—the first, headed by Chief of Staff Chen Cheng, currently commanding the Manchurian defence—and the second, led by Pai Chung-hai, Minister of National Defence.

Fourthly, Central China on the borders of Honan, Shensi and Hupoh Provinces, where one-eyed General Liu Po-cheng, also frequently depicted as dead or defeated, is cutting Yangtze shipping and stands poised for a westward march. The Reds claim that in three months' fighting the Government's losses total 44,000—also presumably a large estimate, though the Reds list an impressive number of Generals as killed or captured.

Fifthly, the Shensi-Shansi front whose latest development is the capture of the important city of Yungcheng, the last Nationalist stronghold in Southern Shansi Province. The Red success in Shansi bolsters a point often made by neutral militarymen—the Government capture of Yen'an was costly though it deprived the Reds of their capital, for it drove them from Shensi to the richer neighbouring Province of Shansi, almost all of which is now under Red sway.

Sixthly, Southern China, where sporadic fighting and occasional uprisings of hazy provincial officials of Kwangtung, Fukien and Hainan Island—Associated Press.

**Your Next Question**  
Suppose the player who winds up as the dummy in a 7-No Trump contract had bid two no-trumps. What would be the meaning of a double after that opening call by

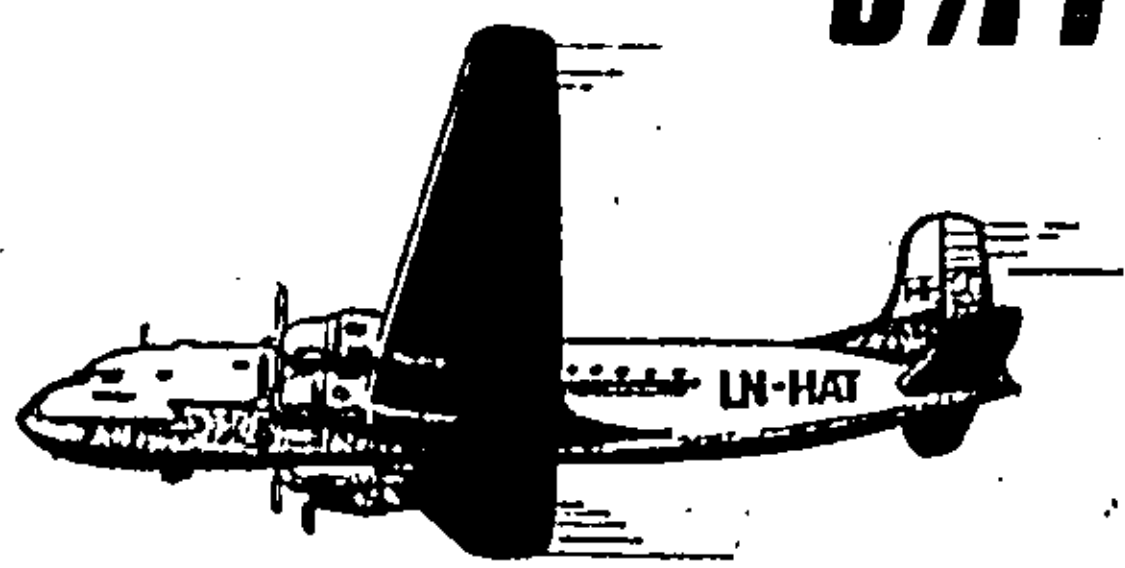
North, which clearly sounded as if he feared letting the opponents get into the auction. South was burned up when he saw that dummy, after West led the spade 3, as he took all of the tricks. He was able to ruff a couple of spades in a hurry, take out the hostile trumps and use clubs to discard all of the diamonds. Even a diamond lead could have given the defenders only one trick, no matter which of them held the A.

North's proper bid was 3-Hearts. Even with his spade shortage, he had no reason to fear a sacrifice in that suit, since he was so strong defensively opposite a hand of opening bid strength. If he had bid 3-Hearts to show enough strength for a game and substantial high card power, South's two kings and queen would suddenly take on new value because of the probability of honors opposite them.

South said that after 3-Hearts he would have Blackwood with 4-Hearts and, when he learned about North's two aces, would have bid 6-Hearts.



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# MASKED CIVIL WAR

## Savage Communal Rioting Spreads In Palestine

### 47 Killed In Haifa Battle: Mediation Attempt

Jerusalem, Dec. 30. Arab riflemen stormed a Jewish machine-gun post in Jerusalem's German colony, starting a new gun battle, as darkness fell tonight after the most savage communal riot so far in Palestine's 30-day "masked civil war."

The machine-gun post was reported to be manned by Haganah, the Jewish defence militia. The colony had been evacuated by the Jews shortly after the United Nations partition decision late last month, when two Jewish shops were bombed and set on fire.

Jerusalem was cut off from the rest of the world for one hour tonight when Arab telephone operators left their posts in the city's General Post Office. In the fighting at the Haifa oil refineries today, 41 Jews and six Arabs were killed and another 49 wounded.

British troops and police then occupied the Consolidated Refineries of Haifa, the Medway terminal of the Iraq pipeline—and an air of quiet settled in the port.

The German colony was a bedlam of shooting tonight as Arab riflemen were reported to have gone into action against the Haifa machine-gun post.

The oil refinery along is the biggest incident since the partition decision touched off the racial disorders in Palestine. The fighting began when two "barrel bombs" were hurled from a speeding car among 100 Arab labourers standing by the main gate of the Consolidated Oil refinery plant on the Haifa-Acre road in north Palestine.

In a matter of seconds, hundreds of infuriated Arabs ran amok in the yard of the plant, stoning, punching and stabbing Jewish workers there.

The yard became filled with shrieking, mulling, mauling and kicking men.

Sixteen helmeted troops of the crack British cavalry regiment, the Third Hussars, charged into the centre of the riot, but did not disperse the fighters until the cavalry role reached the highest figure for any single incident since the partition was announced.

Official estimates tonight said that 41 Jews were killed and seven wounded, with six Arabs dead and 42 wounded.

The barrel bombs which precipitated the riot were said to be similar in type to the one which killed 13 Arabs and wounded more than 30 at the Damascus Gate, Jerusalem, yesterday.

A stiff fight is expected in some quarters when the two blockade-runners, the "Pan York" and the "Pan Crescent," arrive with nearly 12,000 visa-less immigrants on board.

The ships, described as the best-fitted immigrant vessels yet seen by doctors who helped to examine them at the Bosphorus control point of Buyukdere, are now being shadowed through the Aegean Sea by units of the Royal Navy. A Reuters despatch from Athens stated today.

#### Other Troubles

Other troubles reported in Palestine today included:

Jerusalem:—Three British policemen were killed in Jerusalem today. One was killed outright and a second died later of wounds when unknown assailants threw a hand-grenade and opened automatic fire in Agrippa's Way, in the heart of the Jewish quarter. A third fell under a hail of Arab bullets while on duty at the funeral of a Jewish doctor, Hugo Lehrs, who was killed by Arabs on the outskirts of the city two days ago.

Lifta:—Haganah, the Jewish defence force, claimed that its night raiders killed at least two Arabs and demolished one house in a punitive attack with mortars and Bren guns on the Arab village of Lifta, on the outskirts of Jerusalem, early today.

Gaza:—Armed Arabs looted two wagons of flour when they held up a train in Deir El Balah railway station in Gaza, southern Palestine. The train was going from Kantara, Egypt, to Lydda.

Competent observers in Jerusalem today suggested that the intensification of communal fighting throughout the country might lead to a postponement of the withdrawal of the British civil administration from Palestine, due to be completed by May 15.

The British forces might be compelled to remain at their posts, it was suggested, so that the United Nations Commission would not be faced with chaotic conditions when taking over.

Since the United Nations partition decision, there has been a gradual spread of increased violence, with heavy loss of life on both sides, which has indicated that the British forces and the civil administration may be compelled to remain at their posts in an endeavour to ease the situation.

#### Impartiality

The Palestine Government is known to have tried to mediate between the warring Arabs and Jews, on the grounds that continued strife is seriously detrimental to the future of Palestine. Although following out a policy of complete impartiality, the efforts to reach some form of

truce have been unsuccessful, as have been indicated by the recent upsurge of violence.

The Government, the police and the army—operating today under cross-fire from both sides—are doing all in their power to keep essential services running, as well as to guarantee the distribution of food and essential supplies throughout the troubled Holy Land.

In this apparently thankless task, numbers of British lives have been lost, but both Arabs and Jews continue to accuse the British of favouritism to the other side. British troops and police have drawn up plans for greater protection of convoys travelling inland from the coast, which are

#### Birds Of A Feather

Jerusalem, Dec. 30.

Mr. Oswald Pirow, former South African Minister of Defence and leader of the New Order (a movement avowing the principles of National Socialism) has announced that he and Sir Oswald Mosley (former leader of the British Union of Fascists who recently announced in London his readiness to start a Union Movement) have entered into friendly relations.

His "New Order" movement, he said, is in contact with kindred organisations throughout the world.

In some cases, his announcement said, there is already cooperation between it and other movements. In others, merely friendly contacts.—Reuters.

under constant attack, but there is no doubt that the security forces are stretched to the limit as clashes are occurring all over the country.—Reuters.

## France Menaced By Vast Floods

London, Dec. 30. France sought emergency credits tonight to cope with the vast floods which have rendered more than 1,000 people homeless and plunged many large north-eastern towns into darkness. The principal rivers in Western Europe are in spate and still rising.

The Rhine and its tributaries overflowed at many points, bringing shipping to a standstill and threatening the homes of basement dwellers in Cologne and other towns of Germany.

The French Council of Ministers has decided to ask the National Assembly to vote supplementary credits, where necessary, for areas affected by the flooding, which left many large cities without heat and light.

River authorities are reported to be working "all-out" to minimise the threat to life and property.

Eighteen tons of food from the "Friendship Train," which brought the voluntary gifts to France from America, are to be sent to flooded areas of Eastern France.

#### In Germany.

In Germany, families living in the cellars of wrecked houses in Cologne's old city are moving out as a safety precaution, while the Rhine rises steadily. Road traffic across the Rhine is obstructed by a partial collapse of the "Freemant" bridge near Dusseldorf. Flood-water swept a string of barges against one of the piers.

Considerable floods are also reported today from the Rhine's tributaries.

In the Cologne area, 50 vessels are immobilised.

#### Farms Vanish

Five French departments, the worst affected, are in the basins of the Meurthe and the Moselle rivers, where low-lying farms vanished under water.

Local military formations are carrying out rescue operations. Flooding in the Bas Rhin department on the German frontier is the worst for 50 years.—Reuters.

#### LANDIS TO BE REPLACED

Washington, Dec. 30.

The White House announced today that President Truman has decided not to reappoint Mr. James Landis chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board.

Mr. Landis' term expires tomorrow. He has been opposed by the airlines, but Mr. Truman gave no reason for his decision.—United Press.

## Differential Export Licences

Washington, Dec. 30.

The Commerce Department announces a new policy of granting export licences to exporters charging the lowest prices.

This is designed to cut costs of foreign Governments and for lower prices in goods here. One of the Republicans' chief contentions has been that the high prices paid by foreign countries for scarce American goods have forced up home prices.

Mr. Thomas Blaisdell, chief of the Commerce Department's International Trade Office, said the new policy is to "form price regulation which attempts to use the market rather than a Government agency."

Mr. Blaisdell cautiously said that though one of the aims of the new policy is to bring down domestic prices, he did not have enough information yet to claim it will actually do so. The new export policy is authorized in the bill the President signed.

Mr. Blaisdell said it is necessary also to exercise stricter control over United States exports when and if the Marshall Plan is approved by Congress. He said Russia will get quotas of United States goods. Nations seeking certain information, such as statistics on their production, Russia, so far, has failed to do this, notably in connection with oil exports.—United Press.

## Heart Attack At Sea

Seattle, Dec. 30.

The U.S. Army transport "Admiral H. T. M." which left here on Monday for Yokohama, radiated today that its master, Captain Adolph H. Schulz, was in a critical condition after a heart attack.

The vessel, 100 miles off Cape Flattery, turned back and is expected to reach Port Angeles, Washington, today. The 22-year-old captain, who was in command of the "Admiral H. T. M." since the Army transport "General W.E. Hase," which is undergoing repairs here, will go to Port Angeles to assume command of the "Admiral Mayo."—Associated Press.

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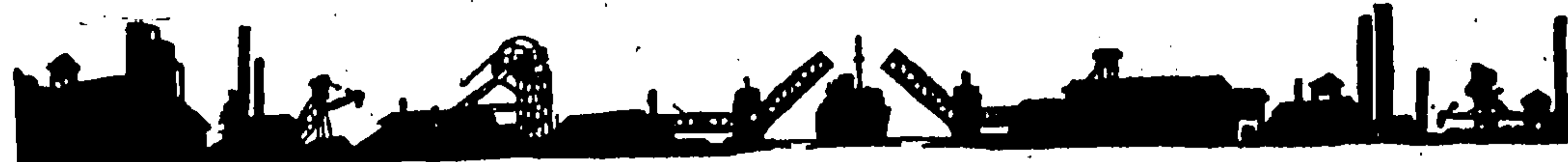


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## ENGINEERING PAGE

### TRUCK DESIGNED FOR EXPORT

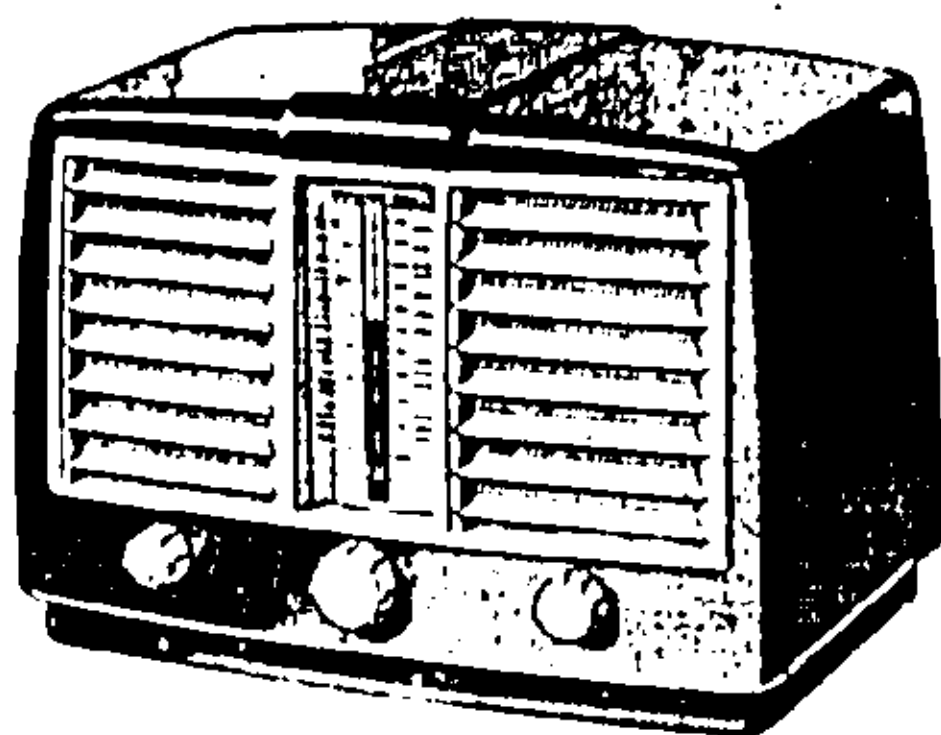
An entirely new range of ultra-modern trucks known as "Comet" is announced by Leyland Motors, of Lancashire. The most noteworthy feature of this series is the new and unusual frontal appearance which combines with the flowing lines of a comfortable car type cab to give the customer something entirely new in outline.

The Comets are intended for the overseas market, where there is at present a weight carrying gap between the heavy duty 12-ton vehicle and the medium capacity vehicle produced from strengthened units. It is to meet this market that Comet export models have been designed. In truck form it is offered in three different capacities.

(Continued at foot of next column)

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**NON FLAKING** — The non-flaking, non-powdering properties of Paintcrete are such that its application over ordinary grey cement roughcast, or rendering, is a perfectly satisfactory alternative to the use of white or coloured cement plaster, at a fraction of the cost. It provides the ideal method for renovating badly crazed roughcast or cement renderings.

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### Streamlined Tram Car

A new streamlined tram-car capable of carrying 200 passengers is now in operation in Riga, Latvia, Moscow radio has reported.

The broadcast said that the tram was in three sections and was built by the Riga Transport Plant in 23 days. —Associated Press.

### All-Purpose "Smoke" Apparatus

A smoke-producing device, primarily for use as a distress signal by those lost at sea or elsewhere in places difficult of access or location, even by aircraft, but also effective as a smudge pot, has been patented by Joseph W. Van Kerner of New York City.

One of the 391 inventions patented in one week by the United States Patent Office, Mr. Kerner's device, No. 2,423,359, provides a signal which easily attracts attention. It is a small, portable, and may be set in operation by anyone without the use of tools and caused to emit a stream of smoke which will rise to a substantial height. It consists of a water-tight container having a charge of smoke-producing materials in the bottom, a smoke-accumulating chamber the top and delayed action means for igniting the material. Also, in order that it will not be rendered inoperative if thrown overboard, means are provided for maintaining it in an upright position.

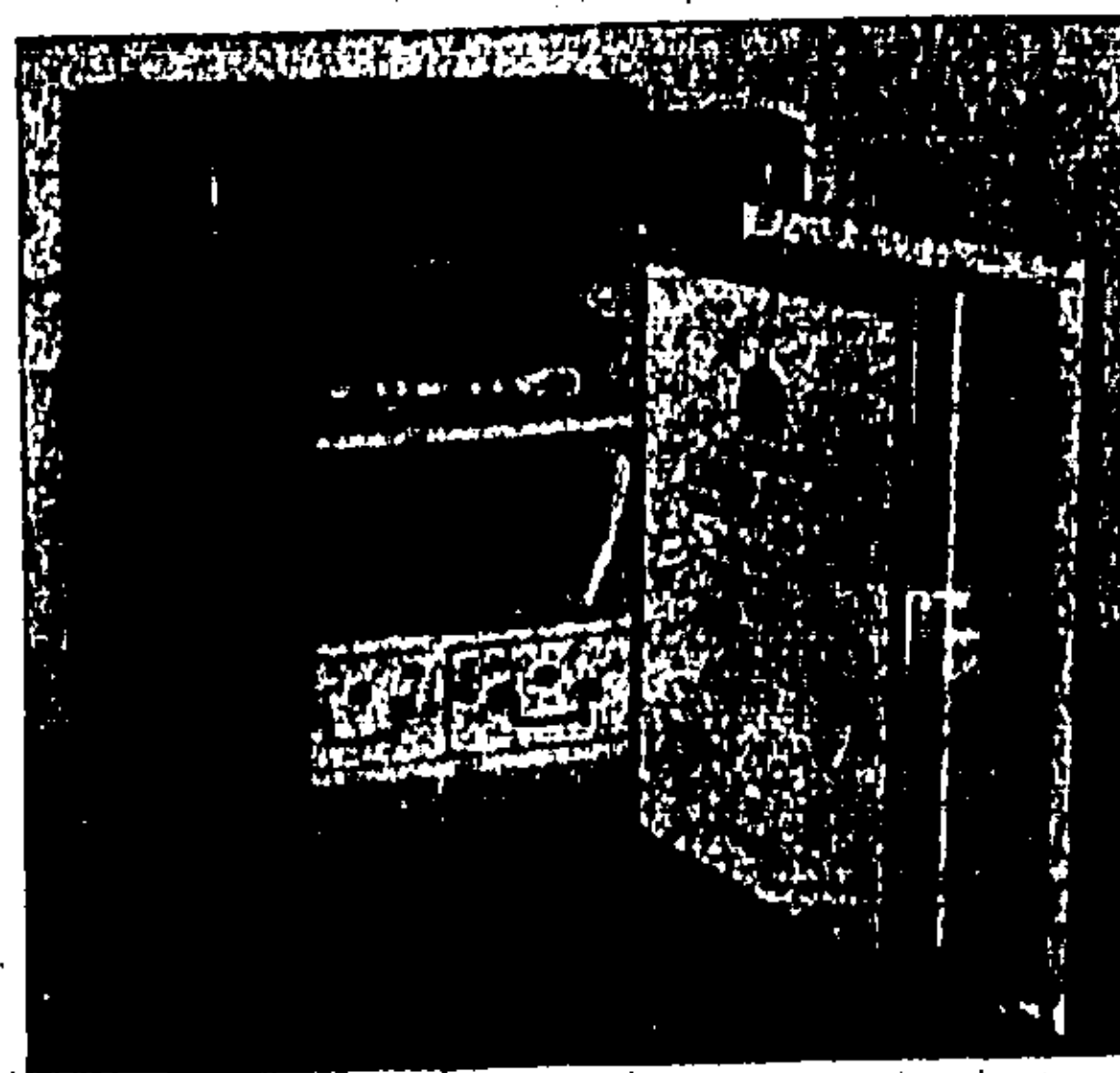
A life expectancy of 12 to 15 years, with the tubing itself rated for 10,000 hours or more, is claimed by the Colorescent Laboratories, Inc., New Jersey, for their Colg Cathode tubes. Through the use of new Pyrex sleeve electrodes, there is no blackening of lamp ends, emission is broken down evenly over the entire shell, and there is the minimum of shrinkage and splutter.

(Continued from Col. 3) ferent wheel bases, each available with left or right hand steering. There is a choice of petrol or diesel engine.

Designs are also completed for a Leyland Comet export passenger chassis for a 32-36 seater body, the production of which will start in the first half of 1948. This chassis will have the same frontal appearance as the trucks.

The name Comet was chosen for the new range of models as a tribute to the "hush-hush" Comet heavy cruiser tank designed and built by Leyland Motors Ltd. during the war. Britain's fastest and most heavily armoured tank, it led the way across the Rhine and played a major part in the destruction of the enemy.

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## SEARCH FOR BETTER RAYONS

The Chinese call rayon "man-made silk," so emphasizing the essential distinction between natural and artificial silk. Rayon is a product of the laboratory and hence of human research. In their laboratories scientists make use of artificial means, endeavouring to produce results identical in principle with those produced by the silk-worm since ancient times without the slightest sign of difficulty: the spinning of a fine thread cut of raw cellulose, which the little creature extracts from plants.

Human beings find this less easy; they have to fell trees and put the wood through a long and complicated chemical process until the microscopic spinnerets obtained finally yield an almost invisible thread.

### Brain Work

Few women think of the vast amount of brain work involved in the research which lies behind the stockings they wear, which is a "combined operation" in the best sense of the word.

Rayon research on a collective basis has begun in Britain only since World War II. It is not that rayon research had previously been neglected in Britain; on the contrary, great progress had been made—but it was chiefly in the laboratories of a few individual firms. Other British textile industries had begun collective research already into the fields of wullen cotton and linen fibre.

It was not until November, 1946, that the rayon industry set up its research centre, the British Rayon Research Association. Traditionally, of course, industrial pioneering in Britain always has sprung mainly from individualism, and this is no doubt why the rayon industry developed along individualistic lines between World Wars I and II.

It coordinated itself, at last in 1943, and set up the British Rayon Federation, with headquarters in Manchester. This Federation organised immediately joint research, culminating in the foundation of the Research Association. This Association is now busy preparing the ground for collective research work.

All users of rayon, especially women, will admit that there is scope for improvement in rayon products. Rayon research workers, themselves, do not by any means claim to have found a perfect substitute for natural silk, for they have not yet succeeded in coaxing the silk-worm to give up the secret of its "laboratory work," although on the other hand, scientists are now able to produce rayon fibres, the properties of which surpass those of natural silk in many respects. The invention of nylon is the latest sensational example of the possibilities of rayon research.

### Experiments

At present the British rayon industry is making experiments with various new types of fibres, which one day may lead to the manufacture of fabric of unprecedented beauty, softness, durability and warmth. Research workers are trying to find new raw materials to make fibres from—for example by making casein fibre out of milk and alginate rayon out of algae.

It is also their constant aim to improve established rayon production processes, such as viscose, acetate and cuprammonium, particularly by combining these products with each other and with natural fibres such as wool and cotton. The field of activity before rayon research thus appears to be very wide—indeed, almost limitless.

### Extension

The extension of markets is another objective. Formerly the clothing industry used to be the chief party interested in fibre research developments; but a growing market has been discovered in the furniture industry, and now rayon research has stimulated an interest in fibre developments additionally on the part of other industries.

Another problem awaiting a solution is that of constructing special looms to weave rayon yarn. The object is to emancipate rayon production from the machine processes used for natural silk; an object which British research successes have attained already to a large extent in the field of dyeing, where special dyestuffs and machines are now used for acetate silk.

This development has spread also to fabric printing, where special dyes, machines and processes also have been introduced. British research workers are not resting on their laurels, but are constantly seeking further improvements in dyeing and printing processes.

### Progress

This progress has benefited the overseas market considerably since the end of World War II. The value of British rayon exports is now some five times greater than before World War II: for the first seven months of 1947, it totalled £16,400,000 as against £3,200,000 for the corresponding period of 1938. British production of rayon yarns and staple fibres during July of this year amounted to 18,200,000 pounds as against a monthly average of 14,510,000 pounds for 1939.

The July figures also show that the rayon industry has made a healthy recovery from the reverse it suffered after Britain's coal crisis in February

1947, production 12,800,000 pounds. It is noteworthy that this extension of British rayon production has been attained, in spite of the fact that 10,000 fewer workers are employed in it than before World War II. In mid-1939 the silk and rayon industries employed a total of 72,200 workers; the present figure is only 62,000.

In other words, modernisation has raised the British rayon industry's productivity above its pre-war level. The major

British rayon concerns have put forward ambitious modernisation plans: Courtaulds have reserved £40 million and Celanese £6 million for capital investment with this object.

This emphasises to a remarkable degree the urgency and responsibility of rayon research work. The foundation of the British Rayon Research Association shows that the industry is setting about its task in the right way.



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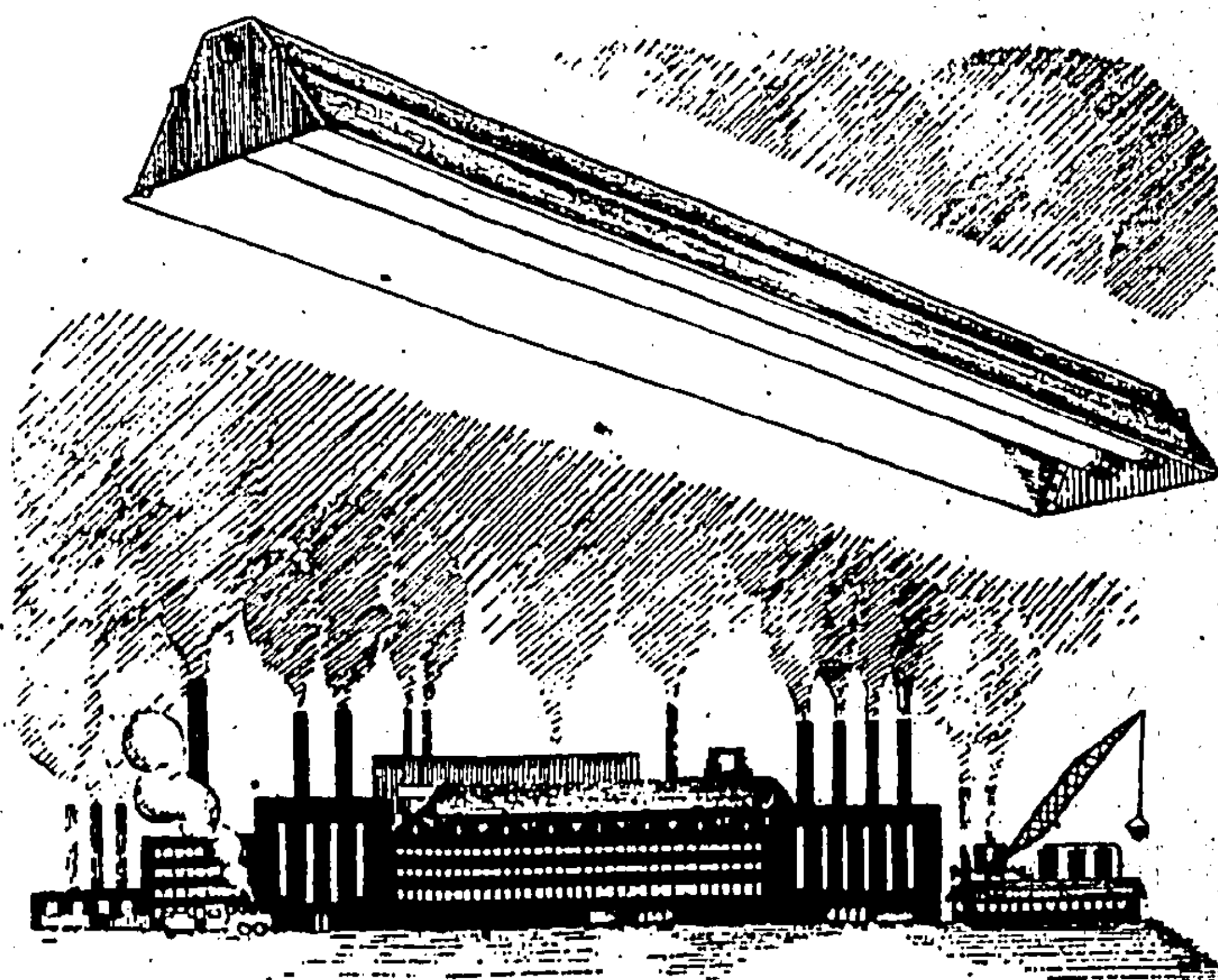
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# COVERED WAGON: NEW MODEL

## Thousands In Long Trek Across Africa

### Scores Stranded In Sahara

London, Dec. 30. Thousands of adventurous British emigrants, impatient with the protracted shipping shortage and unwilling to endure the homeland's post-war austerity any longer, have set out during the past two years on the world's longest overland journey — to South Africa, 6,000 miles distant.

But so many of them have become stranded trying to cross the vast, forlorn Sahara Desert that the Foreign Office recently decided to discourage, or at least to advise against, the traffic. Recently 100 overlanders were stranded in Algiers at one time.

Many have died on the hazardous journey. Many more have given up and come home, broke, discouraged, and with little hope of resuming their trek in the near future. The French colonial authorities decided to require a deposit of about £70 a head before allowing anyone to struggle into the desert.

"Experience has shown that few of these expeditions succeed," the Foreign Office said, discouragingly. "The result of the various failures has been not only acute physical distress to the travellers, but also financial loss and the wrecking of all their plans."

Unlike the pioneers who crossed the great American plains during the last century, modern emigrants usually start in motor vehicles. There are no bands of wandering desert tribesmen to be feared, but the dangers are of a different kind.

The other perils of the overland—thirst, heat, cold and sudden storms, loneliness and trackless wastes to be crossed—are all there, and perhaps they are graver obstacles in the Sahara than in last century's trans-Missouri Treks.

The second route recommended by the Foreign Office leaves Algiers and dogs a range of parched mountains to reach Ouargla, continuing south between almost unknown mountain ranges to Tamanrasset. It then wanders south-southeast into French West Africa, where it touches the oases of Agades and Zinder, passing then in to Nigeria to join the first track.

Perhaps because the journey to the Cape is so long, difficult and dangerous, the emigrants to South Africa seem extraordinarily satisfied with their choice. A Cape Town announcement said that so far only seven out of each 1,000 immigrants to South Africa returned to England.

So far in 1947, South Africa received 19,057 British settlers, Canada 14,700, Australia 8,005 and New Zealand 4,504, it is reported.—United Press.

## "Sheer Folly"

"It is sheer folly to attempt these trans-Saharan journeys without adequate knowledge, planning and resources," said the Foreign Office. "The passage across the Sahara... is at all times hazardous and uncomfortable."

It advised the Twentieth Century pioneers that no party should set out with fewer than two vehicles "which should not exceed three tons in weight empty," should not carry more than three persons each and should have a storage capacity of not less than 120 gallons of petrol. Food for a month should be taken, the Foreign Office said, with five to 10 gallons of water per person and water for radiators as well. Each person should have a bankroll of at least £100 over his £70 deposit, the agency suggested. Before being cleared for the desert, the party must make an agreement with a desert transporter to come and rescue them if they need it—another advantage the Covered Wagon emigrants would have appreciated.

## Two Routes

The Foreign Office said there were only two practicable trans-Saharan routes, one starting at Oran and the other at Algiers, both joining in Nigeria, south of the desert.

The caravan route (for that is all it is) from Oran starts out southwest, touching Morocco near Colomb-Bechar. It then goes due south across the great desert, passing through oases at Reggan and Bidon to arrive, finally, at Gao on the mid-Niger River. It follows the river then in a generally southeasterly direction until it meets the other track.

# UNRRA'S Outlay In China

Washington, Dec. 30. The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration today disclosed that it had spent US\$372,453,000 (excluding medical aid) for postwar relief and reconstruction in China.

The figures were in a message from Maj.-Gen. Lowell W. Rocks, UNRRA Director General, to the Chinese Government on the eve of the withdrawal of the UNRRA Mission from China.

Gen. Rocks wrote: "The UNRRA programme included US\$133,251,000 for food supplies, which we believe helped materially to alleviate starvation and suffering in food-deficient areas in China."

"We have high hopes that good crops from now on will further alleviate the situation, especially with the introduction of agricultural machinery and fertilizers under the agricultural programme."

"On the rehabilitation side, the UNRRA programme included US\$166,742,000 for rehabilitation of industrial enterprises and transportation and US\$72,460,000 for agricultural rehabilitation."

## Serums

Gen. Rocks did not give the figure for the medical programme, which included the flight by special plane of a "number of consignments of urgently needed medicine to avert epidemics."

The Director General added that the China operation was one of the most complex handled by UNRRA, due to the nation's eight years of enemy occupation and the complete disruption of transportation.—United Press.

# Gaol Before Losing Caste

Bombay, Dec. 31. Faced with the choice of shaving an "untouchable"—to touch whom is to "lose caste"—or submitting to arrest, a caste Hindu barber chose gaol.

He was the first arrested under a new provincial law prohibiting discrimination against "untouchables"—Associated Press.

# Gold Sales In London

London, Dec. 30. Bullion brokers here interpret the New York bullionists' report that London has reduced the 22 carat metal in the export market as a possible single transaction by an individual seller—most probably outside normal bullion circles.

They say that the export price normally varies between the equivalent of \$38 and \$39 per fine ounce, depending on the gold's destination.

Apparently "an unofficial" agreement exists between the Bank of England and bullion dealers that manufactured gold will be sold to sterling destinations only at prices above a definite floor, varying between different markets, export licences being refused for potential sales below the floor.

On the other hand no agreement was found necessary for sales to dollar markets.—Reuter.

# N.Y. Stock Exchange

New York, Dec. 31. Stocks generally swung upward as 1,000,000 shares changed hands. It was the 15th million share session in December. Stocks, money and a wide assortment of industrial gains fractions to better than three. Bulls revived in hopes of a sharp rate boost.

After the close, the Interstate Commerce Commission authorized railroads to raise a 10 percent increase in rates in October to 20 percent.

1,200,000 shares were traded. New 1947 highs were touched by Nickel Plate, 20 Industrials 180.66, 15 Rails 61.69, 10 Utilities 32.22.

Closing stock quotations:—Adams Express 17 1/2, Alaska Juneau 3 1/2, American Can 7 1/2, American Smelting 55 1/2, American Telephone 120 1/2, American T. 33 1/2, Aviation Corp. 4 1/2, Baldwin Locomotive 14 1/2, Barnard 3 1/2, Bendis Aviation 14 1/2, Bethlehem Steel 103 1/2, Boeing Aircraft 22 1/2, Boston Co. 4 1/2, Canadian Pacific 11 1/2, J. I. Cape 4 1/2, Chrysler 6 1/2, Colgate 4 1/2, Commercial Union 2 1/2, Corn Products 6 1/2, Dupont 18 1/2, Eastman Kodak 41 1/2, Electric Light & Power 16 1/2, General Electric 35 1/2, General Motors 27 1/2, Goodrich 55 1/2, Goodyear 42 1/2, Greyhound 11 1/2, Homestake Mining 38 1/2, International Harvester 8 1/2, International Paper 54 1/2, International Tel. & Tel. 12 1/2, Johns Manville 40 1/2, Kennecott Copper 48 1/2, Montgomery Ward 53 1/2, National Discount 21 1/2, National Lead 34 1/2, New York Central 14 1/2, Packard Motors 4 1/2, Penn American Airways 8 1/2, Pennsylvania RR 17 1/2, Radio Corp. 9 1/2, Real Silk 12 1/2, Republic Steel 26 1/2, Reynolds Tobacco 37 1/2, Schenley 31 1/2, Sears, Roebuck & Co. 33 1/2, Shell Oil 33 1/2, Sony 30 1/2, Southern Pacific 49 1/2, Standard Brands 27 1/2, Standard Oil of Calif. 62 1/2, Standard Oil of N. J. 70 1/2, Studebaker 21 1/2, Union Bag & Paper 18 1/2, Union Carbide 24 1/2, Union Pacific 45 1/2, US Steel 74 1/2, US Lines 20 1/2, Westinghouse 30 1/2, Youngtown Sheet & Tube 78 1/2, General Public Utilities 12 1/2.—Associated Press.

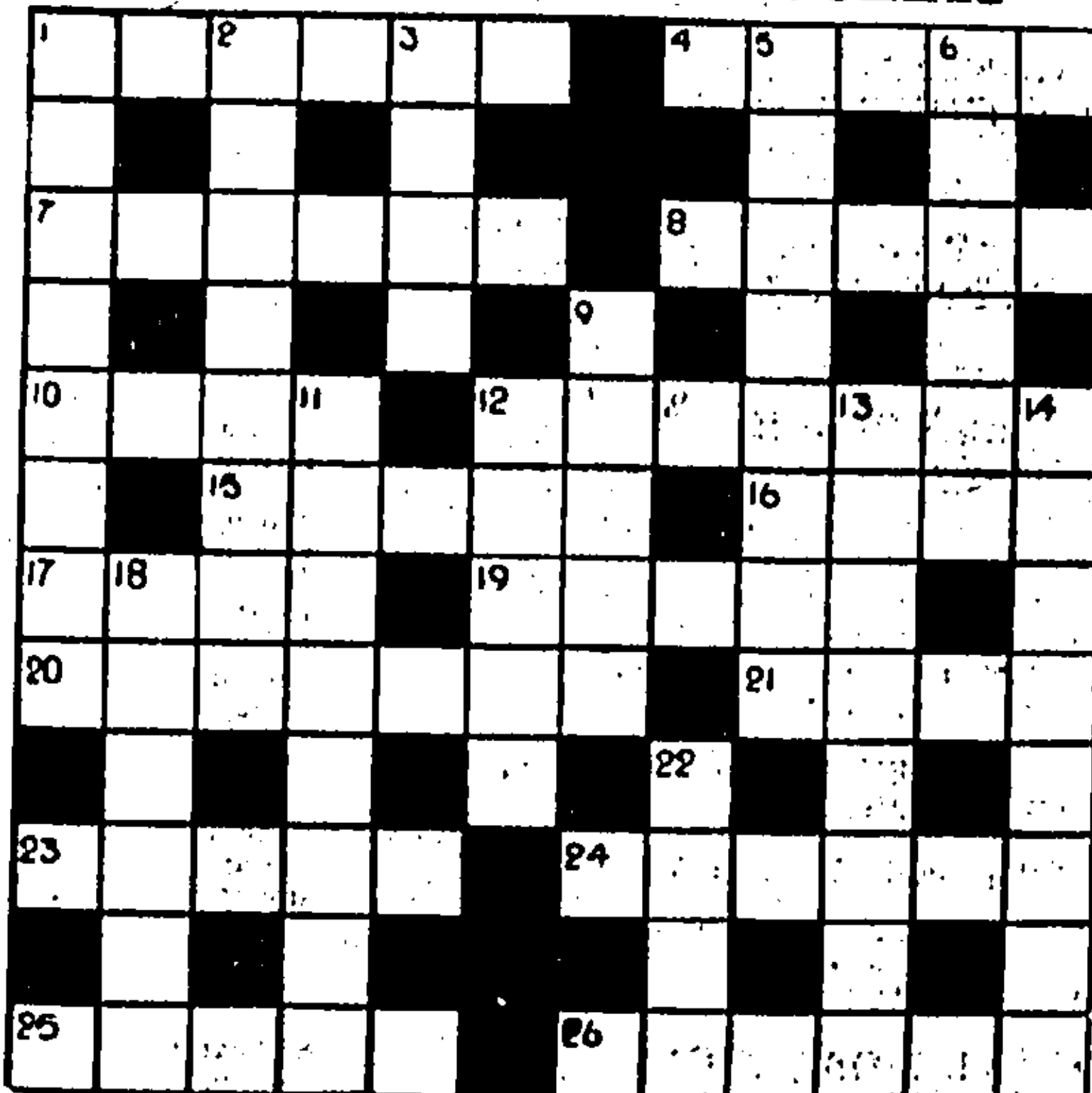
# New York Gold And Silver

New York, Dec. 30. Silver consumers bought about 200,000 ounces at the unchanged price of 74-7/8 cents.

In the gold market, small sales were initiated on the basis of \$40-1/2. Demand is broadening, although buyers, especially Far Easterners, are mostly under \$40, while sellers claim that the recent recovery in the Hongkong market should make gold worth at least \$41.

Actual business meanwhile was small, because licensees were slow in being released or bullion brokers postponing sales until they complete establishment of foreign branches or affiliates to handle their sales in future of foreign gold. The Treasury has not yet reported whether the latter will be permissible.—Reuter.

## A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE



## Clues Across

- 1 On fire.
- 4 Spoor.
- 7 Stereotype.
- 8 Shatter.
- 10 Destiny.
- 12 Trip.
- 15 Join.
- 16 Wagers.
- 17 Vehicle.
- 19 Bird.
- 20 Everlasting.
- 21 Bring up.
- 22 Cope up.
- 24 Quota.
- 25 Precipitous.
- 26 Boll.

## Clues Down

- 1 Rule.
- 2 Undeveloped.
- 3 Notice.
- 5 Recollect.
- 6 Affront.
- 9 Demean.
- 11 Fascinate.
- 12 Endanger.
- 13 Retain.
- 14 Memento.
- 15 Iron.
- 16 Trashy.
- 17 Owing.
- 18 Lever.
- 19 Asleep.
- 20 Trudge.
- 21 Agent.
- 22 Ends.
- 23 Tern.

## Yesterday's Crossword

Across—3 Minister, 8 Rapier, 9 Moderate, 11 Convened, 12 Shoe, 13 Stool, 18 Owned, 19 Spry, 22 Enter.

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| "LANCASHIRE"   | Kure             | 10th Jan.  |
| "ORVARA"       | Shanghai         | 10th Jan.  |
| "TREVETHOE"    | U.K. via Straits | 16th Jan.  |
| "EMPIRE BRENT" | U.K.             | 21st Jan.  |
| "DEVONSHIRE"   | Shanghai         | 21st Jan.  |
| "CANTON"       | U.K.             | 21st Jan.  |
| "DIIVARA"      | U.K. via Straits | 13th Feb.  |
| "TREVAYLOR"    | U.K.             | 27th Feb.  |
| "TREVAYLOR"    | U.K. via Straits | 11th March |

## SAILINGS

| SHIP           | TO                           | SAILING   |
|----------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| "LANCASHIRE"   | U.K. via Straits             | 13th Jan. |
| "ORVARA"       | Amoy                         | 17th Jan. |
| "TREVETHOE"    | Shanghai                     | 19th Jan. |
| "EMPIRE BRENT" | Shanghai                     | 22nd Jan. |
| "DEVONSHIRE"   | U.K. via Straits             | 15th Feb. |
| "CANTON"       | Shanghai                     | 22nd Feb. |
| "TREVAYLOR"    | U.K. via Straits             | 13th Mar. |
| "TREVAYLOR"    | U.K. via Straits & Continent |           |

British

India



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#### ARRIVALS

| SHIP      | FROM                 | DUE       |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------|
| "SANGOLA" | Calcutta via Straits | 3rd Jan.  |
| "SANGOLA" | Shanghai & Amoy      | 13th Jan. |

## SAILINGS

| SHIP      | TO                   | SAILING   |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------|
| "SANGOLA" | Amoy & Shanghai      | 4th Jan.  |
| "SANGOLA" | & Rangoon            |           |
| "SANGOLA" | Calcutta via Straits | 15th Jan. |

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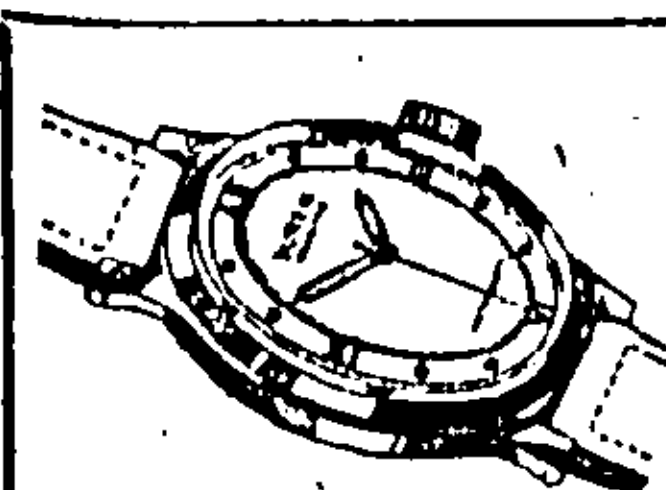












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## SITUATION IN SOFTBALL

### American Whisky Cut

Washington, Dec. 30. The U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Clayton Anderson, today put American whisky makers on notice for food.

The Secretary of Agriculture, under the authority of the newly signed act, limited the use of grain by distillers to 2,500,000 bushels between now and January 31, 1948.

This compares with an average use of about 5,000,000 bushels monthly during the last 10 months of this year. The order is effective from midnight on December 31, 1947.—Reuter.

### President Signs A Duplicate

Washington, Dec. 30. President Truman today signed a copy of the missing Republican anti-inflation bill.

Last another mysterious disappearance occurred, the duplicate was signed at 9:15 a.m. at the first order of business for the President.

The original bill disappeared from the desk of Mr. Clark Clifford, counsel to the President, some time between late Sunday afternoon and Monday morning when the President planned to sign it.

A duplicate, drawn up yesterday and signed by the Senate President, Mr. Arthur Vandenberg, was flown during the night in a special Army plane to the House Speaker, Representative Joseph Martin, at Dedham, Massachusetts, for his signature.

The bill extends export transportation controls until February 28, provides voluntary industry agreements, allocation of scarce materials, and permits the administration to restrict during the month of January the amount of grain used by distillers.—United Press.

## Local Play Put On World Map

(By Grandstand)

Local Softball has made its mark on the World Softball Map with a full column in the November issue of "Balls and Strikes" official newspaper of the Amateur Softball Association, St. Petersburg, Florida. The article dwelt mainly on the past successes and post-war efforts of the local Association.

By a coincidence, this issue of the publication which Avito Campos of the Baseballers brought up recently. The ruling on the play given in the official paper agreed with the one I gave Avito, but in case it should crop up again, umpires should be guided by the following:

Base-runner, after passing a base, returns and stands with his foot on the base. The pitcher should not touch it, the pitcher should be called out for leaving his base too soon on a lead-off pitched ball.

The following is the official ruling given by the Amateur Softball Association: The runner should not have been called out for leaving his base too soon. The pitcher should be called out for leaving his base too soon.

Changes. In the same mail, an official communication was received by the Association from the Joint Rule Committee advising changes in the rules which will become effective in 1948.

Base-line to return to 60 foot distance. In 1945 the base-line was shortened to 55 feet. It was thought that this would permit more time to get on base and tend to equalize the offensive and defensive points of the game. After two years of experimentation it was decided to bring the base-line to the original 60 feet from home to first and third base as it did not bring the desired result. In this respect Hong Kong is ahead of time, as we never did depart from the 60 foot base-line.

Pitcher's Uniform. The pitcher is no longer required to wear a dark colored uniform. He is permitted to wear the same color uniform as the other players. Hong Kong, attempted to follow the original rule in its first softball season some ten years ago, but so it dropped it as it did not make much difference in the play.

Catcher's Position. The old rules did not permit the catcher to leave his position behind the home plate to assist the pitcher giving the batter an intentional pass on balls. The change for 1948 states that the catcher may not leave the limits of the catcher's box to assist the pitcher in giving an intentional pass. This means that he does not have to stay directly behind home plate but can move either to the right or to the left provided he does not move beyond the limits of the catcher's box.

The letter ends in a congratulatory note on the Association's effort this season and with an inspiring encouragement it should be moved to higher achievement. Just around this time of the year, it is not unusual to make resolutions—let us make ours a lasting one for better co-operation and understanding between players, umpires and fans. *Flourishes and Umpires' Roster for Sunday.*

Exhibition game at Recreio Softball Diamond 2:30 p.m. Recreio v. Visiting Filipino Team (Doc Molten, Don Robbins and Hal Winglee).

Men's "A" Division. At C.B.A. Ground: 9:30 a.m. Madcaps v. V.R.C. (Hal Winglee, Jack Brown, Avito Campos); 11:15 a.m. South China v. St. Joseph's (Don Robbins, Bill Woon, J. Delgado).

At Recreio Softball Ground: 9:30 a.m. Pelice v. Canadians (R. Castro, F. Diesta, J. Erikson); 11:15 a.m. H.K.B.C. v. Pilipinos (Tony Lopez, Gerry Roza, Pereira, G. Saunders).

At Recreio Softball Diamond: 11:15 a.m. Recreio v. Rovers (B. Holland, R. Sequeira, Sabu Samy).

Ladies' League. At C.B.A. Ground: 1 p.m. Madcap Bets v. Wahoes (Philo Remedios, M. Souza, H. Moosdeen).

London, Dec. 30. Results of Rugby Union games played yesterday were: Scottish Merchistonians 3.—Reuter.

## New Vistas Open



U.S. Secretary of State Marshall receives an ovation from Prime Minister Clement Attlee (left), and the right Hon. Viscount Greenwood, P.C., I.D., who was in the chair, as he rose to make his address at the dinner given in his honour by the Pilgrim's Society, at the Dorchester Hotel, London, just before his departure to America.—A Photo.

## Judge Refutes Slur On Police

"I regard the allegations which you have made against the Police of having been beaten you up with hammers and fists as being completely unfounded and I am convinced that what you said were lies from beginning to end. I mention this because the Crown did not have an opportunity of putting evidence before the jury on the subject."

These remarks were addressed by Mr. Justice Gould (Pulane Judge), to Wan Ke-chiu, Ju Wah and Wan Nam (alias Chau Nam) who, with Yu Lam and Tsui Yuen-shun, were found guilty on two counts of armed robbery at Jardine's Hill on Oct. 12, 1947.

Mr. Justice Gould also told Wan Ke-chiu, Ju Wah and Wan Nam that he regarded them as the principal conspirators in the robberies. He sentenced them each to ten years imprisonment with hard labour and 12 strokes of the cane.

Yu Lam and Tsui Yuen-shun were each sentenced to eight years imprisonment with hard labour and 12 strokes of the cane. Mr. Justice Gould intimated that he regarded their participation in the robberies somewhat seriously.

## Shanghai Newspaper Controversy

Shanghai, Dec. 31. A somewhat heated meeting yesterday afternoon of the Shanghai Newspapers Guild, whose decision to slash the newspaper import quota of the "Shanghai Evening Post" and the "North-China Daily News," was overruled by the Import-Export Board, decided that the executive committee will demand an explanation from the board for its decision to restore the proposed cuts to the two foreign owned newspapers and that legal counsel be consulted regarding "violent abuse."

"Evening Post," according to a "China Press" account of the meeting this morning.

Mr. Chang Chin-han, of the "Hwa-mei Wan Pao," is reported to have spoken against the "abusive attitude taken by the Post."

Mr. Randall Gould, he is quoted as saying, has gone "overboard in the freedom of the American Press as it he could hurt insults at the guild because he is dissatisfied with its decision."—Reuter.

## SHANGHAI BANNED

Two Shanghaianders, who asserted that they arrived here on December 4 and were arrested the following day, were each sentenced to one month's hard labour and recommended for banishment by Mr. F.X. d'Almeida at Central yesterday.

Si Kit (26) and Li Fong (25), both unemployed, were charged with loitering in the passage way to the Jockey Club Office, Exchange Bldg., Second floor, Des Voeux Road, Central, with intent to commit a felony.

Tsui Shek-fang, of 1, Waterloo Street, second floor, said that he knew Si Kit as a seller of pens and stationery in Shanghai. He met defendant in the afternoon of December 4 once in the colony.

"First he learned by letter from Italy that a small chateau which had been in possession of the House of Savoy for literally hundreds of years had been seized by the Italian Government. He became reconciled to the fact that his big properties were lost to him and his family forever, but a little piece of land which had for him sentimental recollections, was a bitter blow."

"Secondly, he learned also by letter of what had happened to the tomb of his wife's mother. The mother of Queen Helina had been buried in San Remo in the Italian Riviera near the French border and Victor Emmanuel was stunned to hear that the grave had been dug up and desecrated and the body of his mother-in-law had been thrown into the sea."

"On paper the former monarch may have appeared rich but all his Italian properties have been taken, while the money he had invested abroad is frozen and a future disposal most uncertain."

She said the former king appeared to be normal when he was taken on Sunday morning. But just after noon he fell asleep and never regained consciousness.

The House of Savoy is in the deepest and most abject poverty for their former chief, man of the world, and a great lover of art and culture.

"The House of Savoy is in the deepest and most abject poverty for their former chief, man of the world, and a great lover of art and culture."

## MICHAEL'S ABDICATION

### Dispute Over Young King's Romance

London, Dec. 30.

King Michael, the 26-year-old monarch of Rumania, today signed away his throne and all Royal prerogatives left him by his exiled father, King Carol, and a "Popular Republic" was proclaimed in the Communist-dominated state. An extraordinary session of the Rumanian Parliament tonight unanimously accepted the bill proclaiming Rumania a "People's Republic."

King Michael was known to have quarrelled with his Government over his romance with the 24-year-old Princess Anne, of Bourbon-Parma, but the proclamation announcing his abdication to the Rumanian people tonight gave the reason as the "deep political, economic and social changes" which had taken place in the past few years in Rumania.

His father abdicated under German pressure on September 6, 1940, after a chequered reign, during 20 years of which he was associated with the Italian-Italian Mme. Magda Lupescu. He finally married her in South America last July.

King Michael, the broadcast announcement said, considered the monarchy to be "a serious obstacle on the road to the country's development" and the Government accepted this view.

The King's action today followed a few weeks after his visit to Britain for the wedding of Princess Elizabeth last month. It was during this visit that his name was first linked with Princess Anne, of Bourbon-Parma.

The Rumanian Government, in its proclamation on King Michael's abdication, told the Rumanian people that they had been given the freedom to choose for themselves, a new form of State and had "taken their destiny into their own hands."

"Headed by a conscientious and resolute working class allied to an industrious peasantry, the Rumanian people have rejected the regime of the Boyars (the old land-owning families), punished traitors of the interests of the people and eliminated from the state administration all those who protected the interests of their enslavers."

"The Rumanian people have succeeded in installing a democratic regime."

"The monarchy represents an obstacle in the way of the development of our State towards a regime of the people's democracy, which guarantees to the working men of our country good material and cultural conditions as well as independence and the sovereignty of the Rumanian State."

"The abolition of the monarchy has opened magnificent prospects for our people's democracy."

"Workers, farmers, intellectuals, soldiers and officers, citizens! Let us raise to new heights the standard of life in our State—the Rumanian People's Republic, the Fatherland of all those who devote themselves to manual or intellectual work in our villages and in our cities."

The proclamation was signed by Dr. Patru Groza, the Rumanian Prime Minister, and all Under-Secretaries of State.

This dramatic development follows the speculation about King Michael's fate ever since his visit to London for the wedding of Princess Elizabeth.

King Michael privately told his family on December 15 of his engagement to Princess Anne, of Bourbon-Parma, who is King Michael's cousin. Her father, Prince Rene, volunteered in 1940 for the Finnish Army to fight the Russians. His wife was, before her marriage, Princess Margaret, of Denmark.

Throughout the Nazi occupation of Rumania, King Michael was virtually a prisoner.

In his private life, he was reported to have been "infatuated" with the flamboyant daughter of an old millionaire, whom Hitler would not allow him to marry.

He worked against his Ministers who sent Rumanian divisions to fight with the Germans against the Russians.

On August 23, 1944, when the Russian armies had advanced to only 110 kilometres from his palace, King Michael led a coup d'etat by which the National Front, the Liberal Socialist and Communist parties throw off the Fascist rule and united in a new government.

Afterwards, he worked to form a Government acceptable equally to the Soviet Union and to the Western Allies. The Russians awarded him the Soviet Order of Victory.—Reuter.

U.S. Reaction. Washington, Dec. 30. American diplomatic officials today said that King Michael's abdication "taken the brakes off" Communist plans for complete Sovietization of that country.

These officials believe the King quit in protest over recent constitutional changes invoked by the Communists rather than for "purely personal reasons." They doubted that Rumanian Cabinet's disapproval of Michael's marriage plans was the prime reason for his abdication.—United Press.

## Customs In Shanghai Hunger Strike

Shanghai, Dec. 31. Customs employees who are staging a slow down and hunger strike to demand New Year's bonus and winter clothing allowance entrained for Nanking last night to present their case to Mr. O.K. Yui, the Minister of Finance.

In the meantime, Customs employees are carrying their fast into the second day today, though all are scheduled to report for work and carry on their duties at a slowed down tempo.

Three demands will be presented by the delegation in Nanking:—

1. CN\$4,000,000 to each Customs employee for winter clothing.
2. A loan equal to two month's salary to each employee.
3. The treatment of Customs personnel to be made similar to that of the employees of the four Government banks.

Employees on the job yesterday said that their salaries were not enough to buy proper food and therefore they could not be expected to work properly. They carried on their duties in a lackadaisical manner.—United Press.

## CRICKET

The following will represent Club de Recreio against Kowloon Cricket Club at cricket on Saturday, Jan. 3, 1948, at Cox's Race Course, 1:30 p.m.—C.W. Lam (Captain), G. Hong Choy, H.P. Lim, T.E. Yoch, A.H. Ismail, D. Leonard, A.M. Omar, W. Hong Silog, R.R. Iranee, P.J. Billimoria, E.A. Lee and A. Korneru.

Umpire: S. Ramchand.

Score: G. Souza.

Sunday v. Chief and Petty Officers of H.M.S. Tamar (starting at 1:30 p.m.)—G. Hong Choy (Captain), R.R. Iranee, P.J. Billimoria, I.M. Omar, I. Wong, A.M. Omar, N. Leonard, A.H. Ismail, H.P. Lim, C.S. Carr, R.O. Baker and A. Kurneru.

Score: S. Ramchand.

Soccer. The following will represent the H.K.F.C. against St. Joseph's on Saturday at Club Ground, kick off 4 p.m.—Leck, E. Strang, F. Jelicic, Mullen, Forrow, Rock, F. Fowler, Weller, Redman, Sany, Blackford.

The 2nd XI playing at the same ground at 2:30 against R.M.E. will be represented by Mackinnon, Taylor, Sloan, E. Strang, E. Fowler, Drouhri, Gardner, Hamley, Ritchie, Gaffney, Barker.

Referees: Kennedy, McGill, On-Long.

## Hospital Death Mystery

Halifax, Dec. 30. An inquest is being held here on the death of a 21-year-old student nurse, Elizabeth Chestnut, shortly after a party at the Halifax General Hospital.

Doctors and nurses who attended the party have been questioned but were unable to help the police. They were asked about a bottle containing medicinal alcohol. Miss Chestnut was taken ill 30 hours after the party at the hospital, where the nurses shared several bottles of wine.

Half an hour later, she complained of feeling sick and within 25 minutes died. Her parents were summoned from Belfast, but they arrived after their daughter died.—Reuter.

## Business Outlook For 1948

New York, Dec. 31. Here is a summary of the outlook for 1948 in the United States as seen by business leaders:

General.—The first half of the new year will be a continuation of 1947's closing trend; the second half will be more uncertain, with mid-year adjustment expected by many.

Consumer prices.—Still higher, especially in food and clothing.

Retail trade.—Continued high activity but possible sudden decline ahead of other businesses; "buying strike" against high prices feared.

Foreign trade.—If the Marshall Plan is approved, exports will surpass 1947's record of US\$14,500,000; heavy favourable foreign trade balance should be narrowed.

Steel.—Continued high output exceeding 1947's peacetime record of approximately 67,000,000 tons; shortages nevertheless continuing.

Automobiles.—High production than in 1947, but still not enough cars to meet demand.

Machinery.—Heavy machinery—Business possibly as good as 1947, or better but feelings mixed are because of unsettled foreign market and uncertain domestic future.

Oil.—Production up six percent over 1947's estimated record of 1,850,000,000 barrels.

Rubber.—Production to ease off with the end of tires backlog.

Railroads.—Prospects cloudy; traffic to decline with financial positions dependent on pending rate cases.

Shipping and shipbuilding.—Cargo lines need more freight; passenger lines need more ships; outlook uncertain.—Associated Press.

## WOMEN JURORS EMPANELLED ON MONDAY

Monday, Jan. 5, 1948, will be a "red letter day" for the Supreme Court of Hong Kong.

On that day, before Mr. Justice E. H. Williams (Chief Justice), women jurors will be empanelled for the first time in the history of the Supreme Court.

The case for which the first women jurors are being empanelled is that of Li Chun, alias Ng Chun, who will stand trial on a charge of murder.

Among the exhibits which will be produced by the Crown will be the skeleton of the alleged victim of the manslaughter.

## PETRA TO TURN PROFESSIONAL

Paris, Dec. 30. Marcel Hansenne, the great friend of Yvon Petra, former Wimbledon tennis champion today confirmed the report that Petra will shortly (before the amateur status) according to Hansenne, Petra will be turning professional where he will take up a contract with a Belgian firm of racket makers and will devote himself to training the Belgian Olympic tennis team.—Reuter.

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